

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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Andal Ampatuan Jr. endorses presidential candidate Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr.

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### Young Farmers

Want to know what the best tomatoes to grow on Saipan are?

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### Kate Out

Reality TV mom Kate Gosselin has one fewer job to juggle.

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## Manta Band bags silver in NY int'l music competition



The 40-member Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band gather in front of New York City's Carnegie Hall along with musical director William R. DeWitt after their performance on Tuesday afternoon. The student musicians received a framed copy of the statement made in their honor by U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), who was on hand for the milestone event.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By MONTH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band bagged the silver award at the New York International Music Competition held yesterday at the fabled Carnegie Hall in New York City.

See MANTA on Page 4

## EXCLUSIVE

### \$60K sole source contract for DPL consultant

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands awarded a one-year, sole source contract of \$60,000 to former Workforce Investment Agency executive director Felix R. Nogis, doing business as FELNO Consulting Services. His monthly payment is \$5,000.

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Nogis

## 2 NMC programs found misusing federal grants

By MONTH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Two federally funded programs at the Northern Marianas College—Student Support Services and Upward Bound—have been found engaging in questionable use of funds, including excessive hiring of personnel and lack of documents filed for program operations.

Saipan Tribune learned that the Student Support Services program

See MISUSE on Page 4

## Protecting the environment one home at a time

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

While the eco-footprint of taking shorter showers, doing away with electric stoves or recycling soda cans may be small, thousands of CNMI households doing the same thing can make a difference in protecting the environment.

Yolly Benavente, a mother of two and a resident of Capital Hill, said her household has minimized the use of air conditioners

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## RELATED NEWS

Students learn new things at 2010 Environment Expo. **PAGE 2**

TODAY IS  
EARTH DAY!



House: Senate's 'tax hike' bill may be unconstitutional. **PAGE 3**  
131 families benefit from homelessness prevention grant. **PAGE 5**



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# Local

## Students learn new things at 2010 Environment Expo

Tahani Mafnas, a third-grader at San Antonio Elementary School, has always liked corals but didn't know that they are so sensitive that touching or moving them would harm them, requiring 50 years to grow back.

Helen Sablan, a sixth-grader at Dandan Elementary School, had heard about brown tree snakes but only got to understand yesterday

Tina Sablan, program manager for the Commonwealth Cancer Association, shows an example of a harmful household chemical to Green Meadows School students as part of yesterday's Environmental Expo at the American Memorial Park.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



the threat they pose to both humans and animals.

Mafnas and Sablan were among the 700 students who learned new things after visiting yesterday's 2010 Environmental Expo at the American Memorial Park.

The expo is a two-day event organized by the Division of Environmental Quality in partnership with the Coastal Resources Management and AMP as part of the Environmental Awareness Month celebration. The event also coincides with Earth Day, which is celebrated today.

Lisa Eller, DEQ publications and outreach coordinator, said the expo aims to educate grade school and high school students about various environmental issues. "We should engage students in educational events such as this," she added.

Participating organizations set up exhibits where they displayed, discussed and demonstrated their respective topics.

Olivia Tebuteb of DEQ's Nonpoint Source Pollution Branch booth, demonstrated through their interactive Enviro-scape model how land pollution ends up in the ocean. Through the model, the students also learned how to prevent or minimize erosion.

Ben Borja, an agriculturist for the Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Division of Agriculture, wanted students to be aware of the different types and proper way to dispose of garbage. Borja also promoted composting to all students who visited their booth.

Among the public and private exhibitors at the expo yesterday were the Department of Public Safety's Fire and Boat Safety divisions; Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Division of Historic Preservation; Emergency Management Office; NoKaOi Termite and Pest Control; Commonwealth

Cancer Association; Division of Fish and Wildlife; Allied Pacific Environmental Consulting; Tan Holdings Corp.; DEQ's Site Assessment and Remediation Branch; and Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Sea Turtle Program.

The winners for the recycling competition were also announced during the expo. A total of 13 elementary schools joined the contest for who could collect the most number of recyclables, excluding glass and metals, from November 2009 to April 2010. In first place was Koblerville Elementary School, which collected 121,197 lbs. William S. Reyes Elementary School won second place with 27,080 lbs while San Vicente Elementary School came in third with 12,620 lbs.

Janelle Rivera, a teacher at Koblerville Elementary School, said this is the second year that they've won the contest and the students were happy about it.

Rivera said she was also pleased to get the support not only of students and teachers but also the parents. She said that through the contest, the students have a better understanding of the importance of recycling. "It's Earth-friendly. [It's] the best and easiest way to help conserve the environment," Rivera added.

Eller said that, although the turnout is good, with about 500 additional students attending the expo, they can still work on ways to improve the next expo. "[Maybe next year] we can have the kids in smaller groups in order to give them more attention."

Eller believes that with the success of the expo, one more essential message has been conveyed. "Everybody here just wants to communicate a message, and that is to take care of our natural resources." (Saipan Tribune)

## Two in timecard cheating case are given probation sentences

The two co-defendants of former Commonwealth Election Commission board member Jose L. Itibus in a timecard cheating case entered "no contest" pleas yesterday and were each sentenced to six months of probation.

Antonio Sablan Benavente and Edwin R. Olopai pleaded *nolo contendere* (no contest) to the charge of conspiracy.

Both Benavente and Olopai also apologized in court.

Superior Court associate judge Kenneth Govendo accepted the plea and sentenced them to six months in prison, all suspended. He placed them on six months of probation, required them to pay a \$500 fine, plus court and probation fees, and to perform 100 hours of community service.

On Monday, Itibus entered a "no contest" plea and got the same sentence.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Itibus, Benavente and Olopai with conspiracy to commit theft by deception. In addition, Benavente was charged with obstruction of justice.

According to the government, Itibus and Benavente conspired between January and April 2009 to punch in or out the timecards of co-workers who were not present or working and or complete or sign timecards overstating and misrepresenting the hours worked.

Benavente and Olopai also committed the same offense between April and June 2009, according to the prosecution. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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# House: Senate's 'tax hike' bill may be unconstitutional

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), House Minority Leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), and House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ramon S. Basa (Cov-Saipan) separately said yesterday that the Senate may have violated the Constitution when it passed its version of a House austerity bill that ended up becoming a revenue bill for raising taxes and fees, among other things.

The Senate version of the bill also contains two separate subjects—austerity by way of unpaid legal holidays and revenue generation by way of tax and fee hikes—which may also be in violation of the Constitution, the speaker said.

“We passed it as an austerity bill. It became a revenue bill. The Constitution says any revenue generating bill should originate from the House. The Senate version retained some reduction of expenses (provision on unpaid legal holidays), and there’s revenue generation so there are two subjects on one bill,” Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune*.

Benavente, for his part, said the House Minority bloc is concerned that the Senate may have “circumvented the Constitution” by “turning a House austerity bill into a revenue bill.”

He, however, said the more important matter is how the House and Senate can work together to deal with the government’s financial crisis.

Government spending trend is at \$150 million to \$160 million in Fiscal Year 2010, but the projected revenue is only at \$137 million for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

If there is also no new budget law passed and signed before the start of FY 2011 on Oct. 1, the government will have to shut down operations as required by a new constitutional amendment.

## ‘Don’t make excuses’

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota), when sought for comment, said he does not want to argue about technicality and the constitutionality of the bill but said the House “should not make excuses” to reject the Senate version of the bill.

He said the House can reintroduce a revenue generating bill that takes into account the Senate’s version of House Bill 17-45, HD6.

“The House should not make excuses so that they can reject the bill. If they want to raise government revenue, then they can introduce a revenue generating bill. Of course it will pass the Senate if it’s similar to what was passed in the Senate,” Manglona said.

## What the Constitution says

Article II Section 5 (a) of the CNMI Constitution states that “appropriation and revenue bills may be introduced only in the house of representatives. Other bills may be introduced in either house of the legislature.”

Section 5 (b) also states that “a bill shall be confined to one subject except bills for appropriations or bills for the codification, revision or rearrangement of existing laws. Appropriation bills shall be limited to the subject of appropriations. Legislative compliance with this subsection is a constitutional responsibility not subject to judicial review.”

Tenorio and Basa said the provisions of the Constitution are clear.

## Refer, not kill

Tenorio changed his position on what he wants to do with H.B. 17-45, HD6, SS1.

He earlier said he wants the bill killed or filed, but as of yesterday, he said he will refer the bill to Basa’s Ways and Means Committee during the next House session.

The House may hold a session next week.

Basa said the committee would like to review the Senate’s version of the bill.

Tenorio said the Senate version of the bill “does not serve any purpose related to austerity.”

“The intent of the bill is clear:

reduce government expenditures immediately. It intends to save some \$300,000 per pay period. The Senate version doesn’t have that, but wants increases in fees... But by the time the fees are raised, the fiscal year is already over. What good does it make for this fiscal year?” said Tenorio.

The House austerity bill seeks to reduce government work hours from 80 to 70 hours per pay period.

However, on a 9-0 vote, the Senate passed on Friday a substitute version of the House austerity bill, essentially removing the 10-hour work reduction every pay period and raises many of the CNMI’s taxes and fees to be able to generate revenue.

The Fitial administration expressed disappointment over the Senate’s rejection of the work hour reduction. Executive Branch contract or excepted service employees already received notices of 10-hour work reduction per pay period which will take effect next month, while Executive Branch civil service employees will also be subjected to reduction in force.

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## ADMIN DAY

Joeten Motor's staff celebrates Administrative Professionals Day with bosses Matt, Calvin and Dung at Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

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## ENVIRONMENT

From Page 1

and replaced all lightings with energy-saving fluorescent bulbs to reduce the amount they pay on power. They also adjusted their float valve in their toilet tank to help save water.

Benavente, a teacher at Kagman Elementary School, said her family also recycles household materials.

"We separate old boxes and after they decompose, we use them as fertilizers for our gingerbread garden. With recycling, we try to help save the environment and save money too," Benavente told *Saipan Tribune*.

She said her household used to pay \$175 a month in utility bills, but because of energy conservation and recycling, they were able to cut the water and power bills to only \$50 a month.

"We use that savings sometimes to eat out and treat the children... My message to other households is to try conserving power and water, and recycle. They work," she added.

Piding B. Sablan, a Gualo Rai resident, said since power rates have gone up, her household has tremendously reduced the use of AC's, and now use only rainwater to water their plants and fruit trees.

"Before, we would use CUC water for the plants. We now use only rainwater... Our water and power bills have gone down to some \$150 a month, from about \$250 a month," she said.

Sablan, an employee at the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill, said she

no longer uses electric stove.

"I bake so I use the stove a lot. Like I said, power [rate] is so high so I now use gas stove. You can also just steam instead of bake cake and other food like fish," she said.

She said there have also been times when her household would load a pick-up truck bed with soda cans, which they sell at a recycling center for over \$20.

"Sometimes my grand kids ask for used soda cans for projects at their schools so I give them what we have," Sablan added.

Shirley Dotts, a mother of three and the human resource manager for IT&E, said they also collect used soda cans and give them to her household helper who, in turn, donates them to a church to sell and raise funds. Her household has also started using energy-efficient light bulbs.

"There are a lot more we can do but haven't done yet but every little thing we do can help the environment. My husband has also been looking into wind power system," she said.

Karen Alla, a teacher at Kagman Elementary School, said her household also don't throw away used soda cans and collect them instead for selling.

"Every time we go to the store and buy only a few items, we don't ask for plastic bags. We just carry what we bought," she said, adding that the less plastic bags, the less trash goes to the landfill.

As the CNMI joins the rest of the world in marking Earth Day today, environmentalists are hopeful other

households will also do their part in protecting the environment no matter how small the steps they take.

Households can also save water by washing vegetables and fruits in a bowl rather than under a running tap, then use the leftover water for other house-

## MISUSE

From Page 1

hired an excessive number of personnel beyond what was allowed in 2008 and 2009. Over 20 personnel were hired beyond what was allowed in three grant periods. In one grant award period alone, nearly 10 "excess" personnel were hired.

The Student Support Services program is a competitive grant, where funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and to motivate students toward the successful completion of their post-secondary education. Its goal is to increase college retention and graduation rates of participants.

Under this grant award, NMC is permitted to hire personnel for academic tutoring. In one instance, however, it was learned that NMC hired twice the number of tutors and personnel approved under the program's budget.

Another discrepancy under the SSS program was the "unreconciled" records of hours rendered by program tutors, which exceeded the grant budget

hold chores like watering houseplants. Or by not leaving the tap running while one brushes his teeth or washing his hands, so as not to waste up to 6 liters of water per minute.

To save power, turn off appliances when not in use, use fans instead of

for 2008 and 2009.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that NMC was also found to have exceeded its non-payroll expenses in two specific grant award periods covering 2008 and 2009.

The budget approved for non-payroll expenses exceeded the grant-approved budget by at least "three times," amounting to over \$70,000.

*Saipan Tribune* also learned that majority of the open purchase orders made under this program were deemed "questionable." No invoices were filed relating to several large transactions.

*Saipan Tribune* also learned that NMC failed to maintain a fixed asset during the period.

For the Upward Bound program, the college was found to have no records of the payroll of employees in one pay period in 2009.

### Related events

The Student Support Services Program and the Upward Bound Program used to be handled by Janice Tenorio as dean of NMC's Student Services. She also used to oversee the Educational Talent Search program.

In November 2009, then NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez appointed

AC's as much as possible, and go energy-efficient appliances which can be more expensive but can save households a lot with lower power bills. Recycling household items also prolongs the life of the Marpi landfill.

Leo Pangelinan to the post, effectively displacing Tenorio. She resigned from her position during that period.

Information spread on campus that Pangelinan's appointment was the result of an "investigation" being conducted against Tenorio.

Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that she's not aware of any investigation against her. She is currently employed in a private firm and has expressed a desire "to move on."

### 'Unaware of any investigation report'

In an interview during the special visit of the accreditation team early this month, NMC Board of Regents chair Janet Han King told *Saipan Tribune* that she is not aware of any investigation the college or the board is conducting against Tenorio.

However, she said a comprehensive NMC audit report is due in the next few months where all programs and services will be evaluated.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that it was during the time of Fernandez last year when the college asked a private firm to do a special audit on the Student Support Services and Upper Bound programs at the college.

## CONTRACT

From Page 1

The independent contractor agreement, a copy of which was obtained by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, is effective between March 1, 2010 and Feb. 28, 2011.

Nogis or FELNO's official project title is "Consultant to the Secretary of Public Lands."

Nogis is a member of the Covenant Party and was part of the Fitial-Inos Transition Review Committee, heading the review committee on the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

He is also chairman of the Commit-

tee-to-Elect Joseph N. Camacho as CNMI delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, endorsed by the Fitial administration.

As consultant to the DPL secretary, Nogis' main responsibility is to assist in implementing Public Law 16-50, which establishes a village and agricultural homesteading program in the Northern Islands. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed P.L. 16-50 on Jan. 15, 2010.

Nogis' duties also include the assessment of DPL's policy in public land development and investment.

Contract No. 516163-OC bears the signatures for approvals, certifications and legal sufficiency reviews of Public Lands Secretary Oscar M. Babauta,

Procurement and Supply Director Herman S. Sablan, acting Finance Secretary Robert Schrack, Fitial, Attorney General Edward Buckingham and Nogis.

They signed the 14-page independent contractor agreement between Feb. 18 and March 19, 2010.

Babauta, in a Feb. 18 memo to Procurement and Supply's Sablan, justified the sole source procurement for the services of FELNO Consulting Services.

Babauta, a former House speaker, said that FELNO Consulting Services "has the background necessary to assist DPL in implementing PL 16-50."

He said the firm's sole proprietor, Nogis, is "uniquely capable with over 15 years of administrative work ex-

perience."

"Furthermore, language is one of the major barriers for such undertaking, hence Mr. Nogis is very fluent" in both the Chamorro and Carolinian languages as a mode of communication with the local population to ensure a better understanding of our effort. This in itself limits the alternative sources for such endeavor," Babauta said in his memorandum.

Babauta also said in his memo that Nogis will be working with investors and developers in identifying laws and regulations that would enhance DPL's efforts on economic development.

"It is DPL's intent to utilize FELNO Consulting to boost he DPL's efforts in

revitalizing the CNMI's economy," he said.

Government officials and employees, who declined to be identified for fear of retaliation, questioned Nogis' qualification and criminal background as a convicted federal felon, as well as the Fitial administration's decision to hire him on a sole-source contract when contract or excepted service employees will be getting a 12.5-percent cut in their salaries next month.

Nogis was convicted on federal theft charges involving over \$15,000 worth of personal telephone calls to and from Palau and other places in 2000, and submitted the bills for those calls to WIA, which was receiving federal funds.

## MANTA

From Page 1

The 40-member troupe, under the guidance of musical director Will DeWitt, wowed the crowd and judges with their exceptional performance of three complex pieces of music: *Rush* by Samuel R. Hazo, *Elegy* by John Barnes Chance, and *Old One Hundredth* by Louis Bourgeois.

The eight-year-old group was among five high school bands that were invited to perform and compete in the music festival, held at Carnegie Hall's Isaac Stern Auditorium.

The other bands were the Laramie Senior High School String Orchestra of Laramie, Wyoming, which bagged the gold award; the Baton Rouge Magnet High School Chamber Orchestra of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Bridle Path/Montgomery Elementary Select String Ensemble of Lansdale, Pennsylvania; and Laramie Senior High School Plainsmen Singers of Laramie, Wyoming.

In a telephone interview yesterday, SSHS principal Craig Garrison, who is in New York City with the band, said

he is mighty proud of the Manta Band's achievement.

"It was an exceptional performance by all members of the band. It's quite an event because we saw a lot of extremely talented musicians across the states," he said.

To the delight of band members, former SSHS principal Peter Le'au flew all the way from California to New York—on his birthday, no less—to surprise the students and witness their historic performance.

The Manta Band, in return, played for him a special "Happy Birthday" song and dedicated their performance to their former school administrator. Le'au, the PSS associate commissioner for Administrative Services, is currently on medical leave and is recovering from an illness.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, along with his staff, also drove up from Washington D.C. to support the band. The lawmaker presented the band with a framed copy of the "Congressional Record" of the U.S. House of Representatives that he read at the 111th Congress' second session.

Garrison said the band also per-

formed at the Central Park Bandshell in a free concert and had a special practice session with Col. Michael Colburn, band director for the "Presidents Own" Marine Corp band, which plays exclusively for the White House.

### 'It was more than overwhelming'

Manta Ray Band members were amazed at being honored with the silver award.

"Words cannot express the feelings that were going through my mind...I was left speechless," said band member James Camacho.

Fellow member Legatine Mendoza said it was truly overwhelming.

"I was very anxious. I sat there and thought about every famous person before me who sat there and performed on that stage...it was more than overwhelming. Thank you Saipan!" she told *Saipan Tribune*.

For Donovan Tupelo, to be part of the occasion was already an honor.

"The competition made me nervous... but at the same time, I felt it was an honor already to be here so the focus was on the music rather than the competition. I was there to make history for

the CNMI," Tupelo said.

"It was great! The competition was tough but it wasn't really about getting the award because the real reward was just being there," said Janine Parco.

The band will return to Saipan on April 23. The budget for the entire trip was \$140,000, which band has been fundraising since August last year.

This wasn't the group's first international exposure. They had already performed at the Sydney Opera House in Australia and consecutively bagged the gold medal awards at the Tumor Bay International Music Festival in 2007 and 2008. The band also performed as part of the Official Youth Orchestra of the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

### Radio spot

The Manta Ray Band was also featured in the Public Radio International program "The World," with a radio article titled "Global Hit" that aired on Saipan on 89.1FM on Tuesday, April 20 at 9:53am. The feature story was aired in over 300 public ratio international affiliate stations in the United States.

The five-minute radio article favor-

ably described the musical accomplishments of the group, the members' personal ambitions after high school and their career outlook.

In the interview, DeWitt described the group members as the "greatest students" he had ever taught in his entire musical career.

He said the group is highly motivated despite the lack of resources. "Ninety-percent of the group can't afford to buy their own musical instrument...still they're highly motivated and that motivation drives them to excel at a faster pace," DeWitt said.

The SSHS' Manta Ray Band is the only high school musical program in the Commonwealth.

### Islands' greatest resource

In a statement yesterday, Delegate Sablan said the Manta Band confirms his belief that the islands' human resources are its greatest resource.

"It never ceases to amaze me how very accomplished our students can be, if given the resources and the leadership that encourage them to excel," he said. "If we are to prosper in the decades ahead we have to focus on nurturing and educating our young people today."



# 131 families benefit from homelessness prevention grant

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. has so far used up about 20 percent of the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program grant, helping prevent homelessness for over a hundred families in the Commonwealth.

Jeannie Mafnas, planner and grant writer at the housing corporation, said a little over \$120,000 has been utilized since it received the funding in September 2009. The amount of grant awarded was \$589,165.

The HPRP Program aims to provide financial assistance and housing stabilization and relocation services to families and individuals in the CNMI who are homeless or are on the risk of being homeless.

The funding agency for this project is the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The amount equates to 131 families that have been housed using the grant.

Of the \$120,000, 24 percent or \$29,000 was spent for administrative expenses, 34 percent or \$41,000 was used for the actual rental payments, and about 42 percent or \$50,000 was allocated to the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.

NMHC assigned NMPASI to handle the case management services of the HPRP Program. This takes into account the data collection phase, said Mafnas.

According to recovery.gov, "the subgrantee [NMPASI] was assigned to monitor the progress of program participants and provide services such as counseling and ensure that program participants' rights are protected."

Mafnas also said that with the funding grant, they expect to provide assistance to 200 families for six months.

"Initially, we only assist [families] for three months. But some households are not stable yet after three months, so we changed it to six [months] last March. We want them to be able to pay for their rent on their own [after that]," she added. *(Saipan Tribune)*

## IT&E says GTA just sourgraping after losing out on grant award

IT&E, which received \$8 million in federal stimulus grant to improve broadband infrastructure in the CNMI and Guam, has said that GTA TeleGuam is trying to politicize the grant process after it failed to win its own grant in the first round.

IT&E also has a pending application for round two requesting for \$90 million on another broadband project, but GTA did not submit a proposal for this one.

"It seems most ironic to us that GTA is now crying 'political foul' when they failed to submit a strong Round 1 proposal and did not even bother to submit a Round II proposal. ... The citizens of the CNMI and Guam should not be misled by GTA's self serving propaganda, nor denied the tremendous opportunity to maximize the benefits of stimulus funding," IT&E said in a statement.

IT&E said the U.S. National Telecommunications and Information Administration, which awarded the \$8 million grant, believed that "IT&E submitted a superior proposal which will improve broadband services and create much needed jobs in the CNMI and Guam."

"That was the sole basis of

the IT&E award," IT&E said.

The NTIA reviewed over 1,800 applications.

A spokeswoman for NTIA said in an e-mail response to Connected Planet: "These grants were carefully designed to invest money where it's truly needed."

The spokeswoman said, "The fact that an existing provider offers some level of broadband service somewhere within the project's proposed service area does not disqualify the project from funding. ... The goal is to ensure that funding goes to projects that will enhance broadband service throughout areas with demonstrated need and best expand broadband access and adoption, help bridge the technological divide and strengthen communities through new economic opportunities."

With regard to this specific award to IT&E, the NTIA spokeswoman told Connected Planet: "Our review concluded that neither of the service providers commenting on IT&E's application provided sufficient information to overcome the applicant's assertions that the proposed project was eligible for funding."

GTA TeleGuam maintains

that a broadband stimulus grant for Guam of the size and scope sought by IT&E is "both unneeded and inappropriate."

"The broadband stimulus funding program is excellent for driving growth and broadband adoption in areas where it is needed, like the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Guam is not one of those areas," said GTA TeleGuam chief executive officer Dan Moffat.

GTA TeleGuam's principal owner, meanwhile, issued a statement yesterday responding to Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho's call for the terminations of Moffat and Daniel J. Tydingco, executive vice president of external affairs, for questioning broadband stimulus funding for Guam.

William J. Wynperle, managing director of Shamrock Capital Advisors, based in Burbank, California, said "Shamrock Capital Advisors stands firmly committed to its investment in GTA TeleGuam, which it privatized five years ago from the Government of Guam."

"We are proud of and confident in the management team and all employees on Guam for their commitment to innovate and improve service. Shamrock has invested about \$75 million over the last five years as part of the successful privatization led by Gov. Camacho. Today, Guam has one of the most extensive communications infrastructures in the United States and broadband availability is among the highest in the country," Wynperle said. *(Huidee V. Eugenio)*

## Order separates two competing marine sports service operators

The Superior Court issued an order Wednesday to ensure that no violence will arise between two competing operators that provide marine sports services at a local hotel.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman granted a preliminary injunction being asked by Masanori Yasuda and Big Boy Marine Sports Inc., owner of Big Boyz II, against Joy Marine and its owner and personnel.

Wiseman directed Joy Marine, Jahangir Alam, Atiqur Rahman, Mohammed Hossain, and Willy Castro to stay away from Big Boyz II, its employees, and customers.

The judge also ordered the respondents not to come within 50 yards of Big Boyz II's sales counter inside the hotel.

Wiseman said the court will not interfere with Joy Marine's right to pick up 'booked' passengers in the hotel's lobby but it must do so without passing by Big Boyz's counter.

Big Boyz operate business lo-

cations on the beach behind and in the lobby of the hotel. Joy Marine also operate a marine sports service business behind the hotel.

Big Boys claim that Joy Marine employees have made it a regular practice to threaten, harass, abuse, and intimidate Big Boyz employees at both their beach concessions and at their sales counter in the hotel's lobby.

In his order issued Wednesday, Wiseman determined that petitioners face a threat of irreparable injury justifying granting the preliminary injunction.

He said Big Boyz provided evidence such as photos, affidavits, and written notices that establish that Joy Marine may have participated in the alleged acts that were stated in the complaint. Big Boyz has also shown that if relief is not granted, it might suffer irreparable harm to their 18-year business relationship with the hotel. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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\*\*One ticket per phone purchased from the April Postpaid Specials. - Raffle will be drawn on May 5th, 2010 (Wednesday), end of business day. Winners will be contacted by Marketing Dept next business day. - Iron Man 2 promotion applies to only Saipan customers.

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# Wiseman: Ex-DPS official not a violent criminal offender

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman said he does not find Francisco Muña Camacho a violent or serious criminal offender, to explain the seven-day sentence he imposed on the former Department of Public Safety official for assaulting a Division of Environmental Quality manager in February.

In a written sentence order issued yesterday, Wiseman said he accepts the 53-year-old Camacho's explanation that "this act was an aberration of a solitary act of anger."

He also pointed out that Camacho has no criminal history and that the former police official has accepted responsibility for his actions.

Camacho, a former deputy director of police, entered a *nolo contendere* (no contest) plea to charges of assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. "No contest" is a plea that is substantially—but not technically—an admission of guilt.

Wiseman accepted Camacho's plea and sentenced him to seven days in prison, all suspended except for one day.

The judge gave Camacho credit for the one day he had

already served in jail. This means Camacho immediately goes free.

Wiseman placed him, though, on one year of supervised probation and ordered him to pay a \$500 fine, \$25 court assessment fee, plus a probation fee.

Camacho was ordered to report to the Community Guidance Center for anger management counseling evaluation. He was also required to write a letter of apology to the victim, David Rosario, and to the staff of DEQ, to be delivered through the Office of Adult Probation.

In his written order, Wiseman said sentencing decisions should

be designed to ensure that prison resources are, first and foremost, reserved for violent and serious criminal offenders who pose the most dangerous threat to society.

"In view of the foregoing observations, the court believes that this is a case where the best interests of justice and of this society will be best served by imposing a sentence that the court believes will assure the ends of justice and be in the best interests of the community," Wiseman said.

The case arose from an incident on Feb. 11, 2010, when Camacho assaulted Rosario, DEQ's branch manager for

wastewater, after Rosario reprimanded Marcia Camacho, the defendant's wife, about work

related matters. Rosario was injured on the left side of his body and right side of his face.

## US govt error results in order to free suspect in forged bond case

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The federal court ordered yesterday the release of a man suspected of producing a forged \$200 million Treasury bond after finding that the U.S. government failed to seek a detention hearing for him.

U.S. District Court for the NMI judge Mark W. Bennett ordered the release of Kent Sebastian Robinson after learning that the U.S. government committed an egregious violation of Robinson's right for release.

"I am beyond shocked of the U.S. government's violation of Mr. Robinson's statutory right for release here. I am beyond shocked by it," Bennett said.

Had there been no breach on Robinson's right to release, Bennett said he would have released the suspect in possibly the next of couple of days but, as it is, "I'm going to release him immediately on conditions."

Bennett ordered Robinson to post an unsecured bond of \$100,000. Among the other conditions for release is not leaving Saipan without the court's permission, surrendering his passport and other travel documents, and not obtaining a passport and any other travel documents.

Bruce Berline, the court-

appointed stand-by counsel for Robinson, had argued that the defendant had not received a detention hearing and therefore should be released immediately. "Because he [Robinson] is unlawfully held, we ask the court to release him immediately," Berline said.

When Bennett asked assistant U.S. attorney Gerald Hendersen if Robinson had a detention hearing, Hendersen replied that he wasn't aware of it.

Bennett said he agrees with Berline that the U.S. government missed an opportunity to hold a detention hearing. He also urged Robinson to consider having Berline as his counsel.

Robinson asked the court to continue his trial date to at least August 2010 in order for him to have more time to prepare. Robinson said he needs to contact a minimum of 40 to 50 witnesses. Bennett granted the request and set the jury trial for Aug. 9, 2010 at 9am.

According to the indictment, on Dec. 19, 2008, Robinson made a counterfeited and forged document—a Secured Funding and Offset Bond with a declared value of \$200 million—purportedly registered with the U.S. Department of Treasury. The bond was paid to the order of Oceania Insurance Corp., a company doing business in the CNMI.

## Four arrested, 4 stores cited for alleged sale of liquor to minors

A joint operation Tuesday night resulted in the arrest of four persons and the issuance of citations to four retailers on Saipan for allegedly selling alcohol to minors.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Eric David said those arrested were the ones

who sold alcohol to minors. They were detained at the Department of Corrections.

Given citations were Family Market in Susupe, L.F. Market in Chalan Kanoa, 999 Market in Chalan Piao, and Ming Yang Market in San Vicente.

He said the operation was conducted by the DPS Crime Prevention Unit and the Juvenile Task Force that consists of Alcohol Tobacco Beverage Control, Office of the Attorney General, and the Criminal Justice Planning Agency. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD MEETING

**Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda**  
Thursday, May 6, 2010  
6:00 PM, Zoning Conference Room, Joeten Building, Saipan

### A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
5. Communications

### B. Reports

1. Chairman
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Administrator
5. Committees
6. Legal Counsel

### C. Public Comments

### D. Permits/ Applications/ Rezones: review and decide.

1. None

### E. Old Business.

1. Proposed amendments to Saipan Zoning Law of 2008
  - a. Update on proposed amendments to the 2008 Saipan Zoning Law (Presentation by staff)

### F. New Business.

1. Update on Zoning Permit Processing
2. Update on Zoning Enforcement Activities
3. Update on Junk Car Removal Program
4. Update on Board's Public Outreach Program

### G. Executive (Closed) Session

### H Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese Ogumoro, Acting Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Chair, Zoning Board



# Summer Holiday donates \$5K for NMC Golf Open

In an effort to enhance educational opportunities and resources in the CNMI, the Summer Holiday Hotel recently presented a \$5,000 donation to the Northern Marianas College

Foundation.

"This is the first year our business has donated to the NMC Foundation," said Li Guang Fei, operations manager of Summer Holiday Hotel. "Our company is very proud to be supporting the advancement of higher education in the CNMI."

The donation was presented in support of the upcoming 8th Annual NMC Foundation Golf Open, which is organized by the NMC Foundation. The tournament, the organization's signature event, aims to raise critical funds to support NMC's academic programs and services.

"Summer Holiday Hotel's sponsorship is greatly appreciated," said Ben Babauta, president of the NMC Foundation. "The company's support



of the golf open will contribute to the NMC Foundation's fundraising efforts for higher education." (NMC)

Northern Marianas College Foundation president Ben Babauta, second from right, receives a check for \$5,000 presented by Li Guang Fei, operations manager of Summer Holiday Hotel, far left, as hotel staff look on.

## Wildlife photographer, MINA, USFWS tie up to highlight Micronesia Challenge

### CONTACT INFO

- MINA Annual Progress Meeting and Wildlife Photography Exhibit
  - E-mail: [mina@minapacific.org](mailto:mina@minapacific.org)
  - Tel: (670) 233-7333.
- Micronesia Challenge: [www.micronesiachallenge.org](http://www.micronesiachallenge.org)
- Kurt W. Baumgartner
  - Web: [www.kurtbaumgartner.com](http://www.kurtbaumgartner.com)
  - E-mail: [info@kurtbaumgartner.com](mailto:info@kurtbaumgartner.com)

Kurt W. Baumgartner, a wildlife and conservation photographer, has partnered with the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to raise awareness in answer to the Micronesia Challenge.

The Challenge is a commitment by the chief executives of the Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau, the U.S. territories of Guam and the CNMI to effectively conserve at least 30 percent of near-shore marine resources and 20 percent of the terrestrial resources across Micronesia by 2020. This far exceeds current goals set by international conventions and treaties, which call for countries to conserve 10 percent of terrestrial and marine resources by 2010 and 2012 respectively.

On Friday, April 30, MINA will hold its annual general membership meeting with a presentation on the conservation group's annual progress and feature the wildlife photography of Kurt W. Baumgartner. The public is encouraged to attend to experience an evening of art and environment. The meeting and exhibition are scheduled from 6pm to 8pm at Shenanigan's Restaurant, Garapan, Saipan.

Emphasizing the unity in diversity of the Mariana Islands' fauna, exhibition highlights include the elusive, IUCN category: Extinct in the Wild, Guam Rail, photographed in the wild for the first time since its Extinct in the Wild designation, as well as critically endangered endemic species such as the territorial Nightingale Reed-warbler, a nesting Golden White-eye and the minuscule Partula Gibba's world magnified.

Working with the dedicated staff of the USFWS, Baumgartner photographed these species in their natural habitat in Guam and on Saipan and Rota.

MINA and Baumgartner hope that these images featuring the irreplaceable species of the Mariana Islands will help mobilize conservation awareness among the local population about the inimitability of the region's habitat.

Baumgartner is a grandnephew of the late Bishop Apollinaris William Baumgartner of Guam. His images have been featured in leading magazines, nature books and conservation organizations, including the *National Geographic*, *ARKive* and *Audubon*. (PR)

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**RFP10-DCCA/HPO-078**

SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 20, 2010 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"PROPOSED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION FOR JAPANESE DEFENSIVE COMPLEX, ROTA ISLAND, CNMI FOR THE OFFICE OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DRIVE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL INQUIRIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO MR. PEDRO (ROY) C. SABLAN, JR. DIRECTOR OF HPO AT (670) 664-2120/25 OR BY FAX TO: (670) 664-2139 OR E-MAIL TO [provsablan@cnmihpo.com](mailto:provsablan@cnmihpo.com) NO LATER THAN **MAY 11, 2010, CLOSE OF BUSINESS.**

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JESPER K.P. VILLAGOMEZ  
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**RFP10-DPL-091**

SUBMISSION: MAY 20, 2010 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL ON SAIPAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. OSCAR M. BABAUTA, ACTING SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS BY FAX TO (670) 234-3755. **NO LATER THAN MAY 11, 2010, CLOSE OF BUSINESS.**

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A) - (D).

/s/ OSCAR M. BABAUTA  
SECRETARY OF DPL

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-029

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Roof Coating of Rota Jr. High and Rota High School** on Rota Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 16, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee \$33.95.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 3, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Rota High School Library on Rota. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than May 7, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-029, and submitted with one original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, May 13, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

**This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" provisions.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement & Supply Officer



### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### Sabalu Market to move to Garapan Base this Saturday

The Saipan Sabalu Market will be moved from Susupe to the Garapan Fishing Base on Saturday, April 24, 2010, because the Flame Tree Arts Festival will be occupying the area in Susupe on that day. The Market will be open as usual from 6am to 12pm. The Market will go back to the Susupe site the week after the festival. Support your local farmers: Buy local produce. (PR)

#### SVES club to host plant sale

San Vicente Elementary School Young farmers would like to help you be more self-sufficient. We are having a plant sale this Saturday, April 24, between 8am and 12pm at the bus shelter. They have papaya, tomato, basil, mint, oregano, beans, cucumber, eggplant, pepper, green onions, seedless tangerine and lemon plants. They also have gardenia, ylang-ylang, Kennedy hibiscus and zinnia flowering plants for sale. All are ready to plant or repot for your summer garden at prices of only \$3 to \$7. (PR)

#### Green Meadow fundraising walkathon set

Green Meadow School PTA And Advisory Council will be conducting on April 24, 2010, a fundraising event called "1st Annual Walkathon 2010" for the improvement of the school playground. We invite families and friends to join us in this worthwhile project. Registration starts at 6am at Minachom Atdao this Saturday, April 24, 2010. The beneficiaries, our children, will be grateful for your kind support. A t-shirt commemorating the walkathon will be given for every \$10 pledge of support. (PR)

#### Saipan casino proposal, austerity bill on Marianas Agupa

Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio is scheduled to be a special guest on Marianas Agupa Chamorro Radio Talk show this Saturday, April 24, 2010, from 10am to 11am on Magic 100.3 FM. Topic of discussion will be on the proposed Saipan Casino Control Act of 2010. Listeners of the show may call 234-5929 and participate in the discussion.

Rep. Teresita M. Santos (I-Rota) will also be a special guest on the show, to discuss issues of the austerity measure and her leadership in volunteering her pay cut, between 9:30am and 10am.

The Chamorro Talk Show Program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona with a special guest host, former mayor Joseph S. Inos. The talk show airs every Saturday between 9am and 11am. Simultaneous Internet streaming via [www.magic100radio.com](http://www.magic100radio.com) will be available. For more information, e-mail [marianasagupa@gmail.com](mailto:marianasagupa@gmail.com). (PR)

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 22, 1999

#### Clock winds down for best bid tender

The nine companies elevated into the second round of evaluation on the Saipan power project have until tomorrow to express intent to submit their "best and final offers" for review by an independent engineering firm, according to officials. The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation sent out a letter last week asking them if they are still interested to be included in the next phase which is expected to begin in the next few days. CUC Executive Director Timothy P. Villagomez and the private legal counsel for the government-owned utility corporation are also set to leave soon to meet with representatives of Burns & McDonnell, the independent evaluator hired in January.

#### Firm: Marina poses dangers

A independent firm that ensures safety compliance of all vessels in the CNMI has warned the Department of Lands and Natural Resources against adopting the proposed rules and regulations for the Outer Smiling Cove Marina saying it is not safe for operations and endangers the public. According to the Allied Marine Surveyors Ltd., DLNR has failed to prove that there is imminent peril to public health, safety or welfare to effect an emergency adoption of regulations in less than 30 days. "Adoption of the Proposed Rules and Regulations will validate the Outer Cove Marina, which is still not safe for any operations other than fair weather conditions," said AMS.

April 22, 2000

#### Questions remain over \$2M Compact money

If the \$2 million Compact impact money was included in the projections for the continuing resolution, then the Governor has every authority to expend that money without supplemental appropriation. However, if it is not included in the projection identified as revenue for this fiscal year, then the expenditure of that fund should have been forwarded to the Legislature for appropriation. House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider pointed out these points when asked to comment on the recent motion adopted by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation questioning Gov. Juan N. Babauta's decision to allocate the Compact impact money to finish the stalled construction of the Tinian High School.

#### DPS saves \$400K from overtime cuts

From cutting back on overtime expenses to the frugal use of office supplies, the Department of Public Safety has looked at all areas to minimize costs in a bid to stay afloat amid depleting government coffers. DPS deputy commissioners Sandy Tudela and Franklin Babauta last week enumerated the cost-saving measures undertaken by the department, noting that since DPS began reducing overtime three months ago, some \$400,000 has been saved in personnel expenses alone. Even before the executive branch issued expenditure control measures, Col. Babauta said the department already had the resolve to lessen its expenses, particularly by canceling some of its telephone caller ID services, as well as, making wise use of paper supplies.

April 22, 2003

#### Govt aide uses Senate president's vehicle in wild chase

A government employee is facing several criminal charges for allegedly ramming his car into a former girlfriend's vehicle during a brief tail-gating incident along Middle Road Thursday. Police lodged charges of assault with a dangerous weapons, disturbing the peace, obstructing justice, and misuse of government vehicle against the suspect, Juan Mundo Santos. Allegedly reeking with alcohol, police claimed the suspect even tried to evade arrest by giving out false identity and information during preliminary investigation. Department of Public Safety spokesperson Lt. Pete Muña said the suspect was taken into custody after he was positively identified by another police officer at around 10:25pm Thursday.

#### Security deposit out-finally

Some 21 CNMI investors are expected to recover from the local government their respective \$100,000 security deposits or bonds following the signing yesterday of the new law that eliminates the hefty business requirement for long-term investors. With the passage of House Bill 13-193 into law, long-term business certificate applicants are now free from having to put up a \$100,000-security deposit-a prerequisite that some government leaders have described as the most cumbersome requirement of all. In place of the security deposit, the new Public Law 13-51 allows long-term investors instead to come up with a \$25,000-surety bond.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-030

### "ROOF COATING OF TINIAN SCHOOLS"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Roof Coating of Tinian Elementary and Tinian High School**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 22, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee \$33.95.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 11, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Tinian High School Library on Tinian. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than May 13, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-030, and submitted with one original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 9:00 a.m., local time, May 19, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

**This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" provisions.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement & Supply Officer



# 29th FLAME TREE Arts Festival

Weaving Arts & Culture for Social & Economic Opportunities

**APRIL 23-25, 2010**

## FRIDAY April 23, 2010

6:00 - 6:30	Ukulele Group ( Larry Lee )	8:30 - 9:00	Inetnon Gef Pago ( Guam )
6:30 - 7:00	INATUAS	9:00 - 9:30	Talofa Dancers
7:00 - 7:30	Tropical Blenz	9:30 - 10:00	Chamolinian Warriors
7:30 - 8:00	D' Isla dancers ( Rota )	10:00 - 11:00	Past and Present
8:00 - 8:30	Maluw Band		

## SATURDAY April 24, 2010

10:00	Open Ceremony	4:30 - 5:00	Revolutionary Crew
11:00 - 11:30	Jerry Maglonzo ( Soloist )	5:00 - 5:30	Maluw Band
11:30 - 12:00	Friends of the Art	5:30 - 6:00	Maluw Band
12:00 - 12:30	D' Isla Dancers	6:00 - 6:30	Anna Glushko Academy
12:30 - 1:00	Friends of the Art	6:30 - 7:00	Falun Dafa
1:00 - 1:30	Inetnon Gef Pago ( Guam )	7:00 - 7:30	Pua Hinano
1:30 - 2:00	Alana ia Dancers ( Poly )	7:30 - 8:00	Pua Hinano
2:00 - 2:30	Alana ia Dancers ( Poly )	8:00 - 8:30	Bayani Association
2:30 - 3:00	Maika'I ( Larry Lee )	8:30 - 9:00	Rose Dance School
3:00 - 3:30	Mr. Rob Gibson ( Soloist )	9:00 - 9:30	Cab Dancers
3:30 - 4:00	Blue Dragon	9:30 - 10:00	Inetnon Gef Pago ( Guam )
4:00 - 4:30	INATUAS	10:00 - 11:00	Parker

## SUNDAY April 25, 2010

9:00 - 9:30	Past and Present	3:30-4:00	INATUAS
9:30 - 10:00	Friends of the Art	4:00-4:30	Maluw Band
10:00 - 10:30	Friends of the Art	4:30-5:00	Angel International Schoo
10:30 - 11:00	MHS JROTC Rifle Drill Team	5:00-5:30	Cab Dancer
11:00 - 11:30	D' Isla Dancers	5:30-6:00	Do Remi Music School
11:30 - 12:00	Revolutionary Crew	6:00-6:30	Pacific Flower Dancers
12:00 - 12:30	Friends of the Art	6:30 - 7:00	Pacific Flower Dancers
12:30 - 1:00	Jerry Manglonzo	7:00 - 7:30	Uncle Bens Music and Dance Studio
1:00-1:30	Falun Dafa	7:30 - 8:00	Sisters Forever
1:30 - 2:00	High Pitch Band	8:00-8:30	Talofa Dancers
2:00 - 2:30	Inetnon Gef Pago	8:30-9:00	Talofa Dancers
2:30-3:00	Maika'I ( Larry Lee )	9:00-10:00	Parker
3:00-3:30	Black Sands		

**Civic Center Park  
Susupe, CNMI**





# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
Volume XX, Issue No. 95Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### A new plan for space

To judge from his remarks at the Kennedy Space Center last week, President Obama has embarked on a generational reorientation of the nation's space program.

He is charting a potentially exciting new course to explore the ultimate frontier, but skeptics—count us among them—are unlikely to be reassured until the president's lofty rhetoric is transformed into concrete policy with explicit budgets and firm deadlines.

It was heartening to hear Obama offer reassurances that he is not trying to end the nation's human spaceflight program. The nation needs a strong corps of active astronauts to compete with Russia, China and other countries for manned exploration of other worlds and to attract America's best young people to a program that can maintain America's leadership in the realm of space.

Still, there are plenty of reasons to remain skeptical about this plan.

Obama sought to justify the controversial decision to scrap the existing Constellation program by saying it relied on outdated technology and had fallen hopelessly behind schedule in the race to return to the moon. But \$10 billion has already been spent on the program and, under the president's schedule, NASA's next manned flight won't lift off for more than 10 years—sometime in the 2020s.

Setting a deadline for a date so far into the future, one that depends on support from presidents yet to be elected, is less than reassuring to anyone who wants to see America retain its leadership in the space program. That goes double for Obama's vision of sending astronauts to Mars by the mid-2030s, a quarter of a century from today.

Retirement of the space shuttle will oblige the United States to rely on Russia and the Soyuz spacecraft for a few years to transport U.S. astronauts—and our European, Canadian and Japanese partners—to the Space Station, which was heavily funded by U.S. taxpayers.

Obama made a small concession to critics by reviving the Constellation program's Orion crew capsule as a stripped-down lifeboat for the space station. By some estimates, this will save a few hundred jobs at NASA, but shuttle retirement could eliminate some 9,000 jobs.

The \$40 million that Obama promised to provide to retrain workers along Florida's Space Coast who lose their jobs when the shuttles are gone will ease some of the pain. But the real challenge for Florida is to position itself to capture some of the jobs that Mr. Obama's plan envisions as government money is redirected to private industry, which is now called on to lead the way into space with innovative plans and designs.

Exactly how and precisely when this will be done remains unclear, however. Florida's congressional delegation has good reason to remain skeptical about Obama's plans to alter NASA.

They should keep asking questions and pressing Obama to make the details clear. America needs to be the leader in space exploration. That's been the goal since astronaut Alan Shepard became the first American in space when he piloted Freedom 7 on a 15-minute suborbital flight in May of 1961—the year Obama was born—and it remains the goal today.

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## Saipan: Then and now

### A different time and place

*Editor's Note: The Saipan Tribune presents the notes and recollections of an island chronicler who looks back at the Northern Marianas to a distant, simpler time dating from the 1970's. Recorded by Bill Stewart, a frequent contributor to this paper's Opinion section, his personal snapshots recall several experiences and events that occurred about 40 years ago during the Trust Territory period and later as remembered and recorded in his personal journal. Portions of the article first appeared in MP Magazine.*

#### Conclusion

The islands have had to overcome some tremendous obstacles in their quest for economic growth. They had a small population and thus a small domestic market fragmented over three inhabited islands. There were no known natural resources in the traditional sense other than those of the sea. They were, and still are, located far from major sources of supply and foreign markets. Both raw materials and exported products (of which there were none) were subject to high freight rates. Jet aircraft was not that frequent a visitor and thus had not become a major contributing factor in disjuncting one's concept of time and space in the Pacific's universe of water. In those days the air was filled with invisible air waves transmitting teletype, telex, television and radio signals from every corner of the world—but the messages they carried were largely unheard by many of us. People just didn't seem too interested in the affairs of the world beyond their own center of the universe on Saipan. At that time I thought about a particular affliction that seemed to affect some people distorting their perception of reality.

The never-ending cycle of the ebb and flow of the tide, always present, never changing in its eternal wash, hour by hour, day after day, month after month can make one feel one is also ageless. Some of the islanders I met seem to live mostly in the present. I have not noticed that they dwell on the past or even discuss it at length. Maybe that's what happens when you inhabit a place that has 12 months of July with the only monotony of the climate broken by raging typhoons that scare the devil out of you.

Thinking back, someone once observed that the Spanish brought Christianity to the islands, the Germans commerce, the Japanese a sense of discipline and the Americans dollars, commercialism and a the concept of democratic government.

My own version of the historical account is: "The Spanish discovered the islands for the West and sold them to the Germans. The Japanese took them from the Germans. The Americans took them from the Japanese and gave them back to the local people who leased them back to the Japanese."

Shortly after my arrival on Saipan, I recall thinking it curious that some elderly Chamorros and others throughout the former Japanese Mandated Islands looked back on the Japanese period with

**By WILLIAM H. STEWART**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

William H. Stewart is an economist, historian, and military cartographer.



nostalgia. This was somewhat surprising. It may have been related to the desire for formality found in Japanese relationships and the discipline instilled by Japanese society and its sensitivities, both markedly different from the casualness, informality and briskness of the West. I learned the Pacific is the ocean where East meets West—ancient civilizations with cultural and ancestral stability with a reverence for the past are juxtaposed with the restlessness of the West and its obsession with the future. Perhaps also, it could be that individual opportunities were limited in those distant days, thereby simplifying life's choices. Then too, it may be a misplaced perception or remembrance and longing for a bygone time, now remote and as irrecoverable as one's youth.

Whatever it was, it still existed in the hearts and minds of many islanders long after the Japanese society had been washed away on the waves of time. Tennyson may have been right when he wrote, "There is no time like the old time, when you and I were young." And now it has happen to me as my thoughts return to the old days of the Trust Territory. It was long ago.

Today the Marianas archipelago, situated in a universe of water, are the farthest stars out in the American galaxy, a political affiliation few could have foreseen.

In the mid-'80s two fortuitous events occurred, more or less in tandem, which had the potential to significantly change the economy. One event was local, the other international: The CNMI abandoned the formerly restrictive, xenophobic Congress of Micronesia laws governing foreign investment and opened the economy to all investors. It was around 1984 when the first five garment manufacturing plants started operation. Over the period of the next several years at its height this industry's approximately three dozen plants made annual contributions to the economy ranging from \$163.3 million to \$208.7 million not including \$79 million remitted overseas from wages paid a huge foreign work force numbering more than 16,900 together with 1,500 local hires existed on Saipan.

About the same time the U.S. government, at the Plaza Accords in New York, devalued the dollar in 1986 as related to the yen, which had the effect of providing the Japanese with a half-price sale on real estate and other assets. Japanese investment flooded the CNMI.

See SAIPAN on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Never give in

*Make your life a masterpiece by taking the 60 Day Challenge. You are the artist that can create any life you want by setting and achieving worthwhile goals. Each week until May 20<sup>th</sup> this column will share ideas and stories to help motivate you toward your objectives.*

Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain during World War II, visited Harrow School on October 29, 1941 and uttered these immortal words during his speech: "Never give in. Never, never, never, never – in nothing great or small, large or petty – never give in, except to convictions of honor and good sense."

Churchill was not immune to failure. He failed sixth grade and was defeated in every election for public office until he became Prime Minister at 62 years of age. His indomitable spirit sustained the British people during the bleakest hours of the war and gave countrymen hope to not give in to the Nazi threat.

You're now more than halfway through the 60-Day Challenge, and you've had time to evaluate your progress. So, how are you doing? Are you still plugging away, or have you given in to old habits and stopped making progress?

Billionaire businessman Ross Perot stated that "most people give up just when they're about to achieve success. They quit on the one yard line. They give up at the last minute of the game, one foot from a winning touchdown."

You've heard the saying that quitters never win, and winners never quit. Just because you might have slowed down or even stopped for a few days does not mean that you've quit. Recommit to achieve your goals and persist until you succeed. If you keep getting up every time you fall, you will inevitably reach your goals. Winston

Churchill said: "Success is never found. Failure is never fatal. Courage is the only thing."

Some of the greatest accomplishments have come from people who were too foolish or pigheaded to give in. Their belief in themselves and what they were doing sustained them through some of the toughest times until they got the "lucky" break that propelled them to fame and fortune.

Orville Redenbacher, the man who gave us Gourmet Popping Corn, was obsessed with creating the best popcorn in the world. While attending Purdue University he majored in agronomy and became involved with the research of hybrid popcorn seed. It would take another 40 years of cross-breeding over 3,000 hybrids before he achieved popcorn perfection in 1965. During his struggles, he confides that becoming a millionaire was the farthest thing from his mind while he was working on the hybrid, but in 1976 he sold his Gourmet Popping Corn to Hunt-Wesson, Inc. and it only took one year to become the number one selling popcorn in the U.S. Needless to say, Redenbacher became rich and his popcorn continues to sell well.

In a letter he wrote for Andy Andrews book, *Storms of Perfection*, Redenbacher says: "I suppose that persistence and stubbornness were responsible for my success. For years and years I was told I was looking for a will-o'-the-wisp, to leave well enough alone. I didn't listen. When someone tells me something can't be done, that's exactly what I'm going to do! So follow the classic homespun principles. Never say die. Never be satisfied. Be stubborn. Be persistent. Integrity is a must. Anything worth having is worth striving for with all your might."

Don't be afraid of failure because it only gives you the opportu-

## By RIK and JANEL VILLEGAS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Rik is a business instructor at NMC and Janel is a partner with BizResults.*



nity to start over more intelligently. An athlete said: "I have missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I have lost almost 300 games. On 26 occasions I have been entrusted to take the game-winning shot...and I missed. I have failed over and over and over again in my life. And that's precisely why I succeed."

Do you have that kind of attitude when it comes to achieving your goals? Are you willing to stay with a task until you master it, or do you just give up? Luckily Michael Jordan wasn't a quitter and it was that attitude that caused him to become one of the greatest and most respected athletes in the world.

You are a masterpiece in the making, and every day is an opportunity for you to become a better person. When Pablo Casals was 95 years-young, a reporter asked him, "Mr. Casals, you are 95 and the greatest cellist that ever lived. Why do you still practice six hours a day?" Casals looked at the reporter and answered, "Because I think I'm making progress."

We hope you're still making progress on your goals and that you have the attitude that failure is not an option. "Our greatest glory is not in never falling but in rising every time we fall."—Confucius

## Letters to the Editor

### 'Sin tax' versus 'sweet tax'

Sin tax. Whenever our "brilliant" politicians feel the need for additional funds, they immediately impose more taxes on alcohol and cigarettes, which they cleverly named "Sin Tax." The discriminatory target population is the group over the age of 18 for cigarettes, and over the age of 21 for alcohol; of which the totality of these particular groups are not even consumers of the products. The majority does not smoke or drink. The population below these two groups is completely ignored and exempt from the tax. And often used absurd argument given us by these clever politicians is that a heavy tax will raise the cost of these goods so high that young people can't afford them. Come on, does the high cost of drugs deter their issue?

The purpose of this letter is certainly not to condone the use of either product; rather, to suggest a more equitable and profitable alternatives.

Sweet tax. The majority of our population, from cradle to grave, consume sugar products; i.e.: candy, cookies, cake, pies, sodas, etc....Thus, a huge target population, and hence, major revenue! Is this rocket science? Let's not discriminate; instead, give everyone a chance to contribute to the additional funds which our politicians feel they so desperately need. Obesity, and subsequent diabetes, has become an epidemic in the CNMI. Is this not a sin? If so, why has one of its major causes (sugar products) not been included in the above group? If it is not a sin, then we need to initiate a new ploy and name it "sweet tax."

In conclusion, to our "honorable" politicians, can you not do the math to figure out the potential increase of revenues by attacking the sugar consuming population?

**Hector Delgado**  
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

## Disgusted by release of threeppeat offender

Convicted drug dealer David Tanaka Diaz was originally sentenced to 25 years *without parole* on drug trafficking, and sentenced on lesser crimes to a jail term that was subject to parole. The governor, under his power to pardon, exercised his "discretion" and commuted the sentence on the drug trafficking, erasing all the time that was still to be served on the drug trafficking offense. The Board of Parole then granted parole on the other offenses.

I think the governor's judgment to exercise his discretion in favor of a repeat drug offender is reprehensible. Perhaps the governor knows something that we don't. But then the community should be told, because this is a matter of public importance.

The Legislature has long held a strong line against drug trafficking, especially of ice. The 25-year sentence without being subject to suspension, probation, or parole is one aspect of that line against drug trafficking.

The court respected the Legislature's policy in the case of David Tanaka Diaz, but the governor has not. He gave a repeat offender, a *threeppeat* offender, a commutation of sentence for the worst drug-trafficking crime in the CNMI's history.

David Tanaka Diaz has already proven that arrest, conviction and jail time for drug trafficking isn't rehabilitative for him. His *first time getting caught* resulted in a federal conviction. His *second time* resulted in charges that were pending when he committed his *third offense*—the largest drug haul in the CNMI's history.

We now have a known, proven drug trafficker released from jail about 16 years before the end of his criminal sentence because the governor gave him a commutation of sentence. And the governor has not said a word to the public?

I recognize that the governor has the power and discretion to commute the sentence of David Tanaka Diaz. I recognize that his decision is not subject to judicial review. But I think the governor exercised that power irresponsibly and to the jeopardy of the community. Why should this man get a break? What message are we really sending through this governor's action? Is this about connections? Is it about political favors and payback? Why did the governor make this choice?

Because it certainly isn't about law enforcement or justice.

Apparently after the governor commuted Diaz's drug trafficking, non-parolable sentence, all that was left was the sentence on the lesser crimes. I disagree with the decision by the Parole Board to grant parole on those, also.

I wonder who supported the parole? At the time of the original sentencing of David Tanaka Diaz, the CNMI Attorney General's Office asked for a sentence of 50 years. Did they suddenly change their position and decide he's harmless? That curfew would be enough to rein in his criminal habits? Was the public notified before the Board of Parole reached its decision?

What makes me angriest is the possibility that this repeat, "threepeat" drug offender will be allowed access to our children. The Board of Parole has guaranteed that access by conditioning the release of Diaz on his doing community outreach to youth and creating a song to be played on the radio and at the schools.

I don't want him doing any youth outreach. I think that is just a way for him to find easy prey for a continuation of illegal drug trafficking. I don't want him singing a song that is played on the radio or in the schools. I don't want our government to promote the possibility that any student thinks drug trafficking is a way to get airtime for your talent; I don't want to create the possibility that any young child becomes a fan of David Tanaka Diaz. Is there any science, criminal justice experience, or rational thought to support such ridiculous terms for the release of David Tanaka Diaz? Did the Board of Parole consult with the PSS? Do they care about our children and our community?

The Board of Parole should be showered with criticism and the community should let all of its members know that their action is disgraceful.

Perhaps it's time to follow the federal jurisprudence's lead and abolish the possibility of parole in our own local criminal justice system.

**Jane Mack**  
San Vicente, Saipan

## SAIPAN

From Page 10

Everything was changing very rapidly. For the first time since the war local people had money to make their lives more comfortable. The economy grew so rapidly it soon achieved an average annual growth of 16 percent across all sectors. It was a time when many people became cautious of the unbridled growth and started to impose all manner of rules, regulations, permitting and licensing requirements, which would later contribute to throttling additional investment—at least to a degree.

It was the period when the economy had been growing in such an uncontrolled manner that in 1991 the Chamber of Commerce orga-

nized an economic conference heralded as "Commonwealth 2000: How Much Is Enough?" It was an attempt to look ahead nine years to the year 2000 and suggest ways to control the runaway growth, which was adversely impacting the island's infrastructure, which was not designed to accommodate such pressure so quickly. It was a period when the growth experienced within a short period of less than six or seven years, under normal conditions, would require 20 years or more to achieve. The alarm bells set off at the time heralding additional growth were based in part on MVB's erroneous projections of visitor growth, which anticipated that more than one million visitors would be recorded at Commonwealth ports of entry by the year 2000.

Even so, by the late '90s the total reported business gross revenue was \$2.6 billion; locally generated revenue was \$242.6 million;

hotels were averaging annual occupancies of 80 percent or more; visitor arrivals were 726,690 in '97 with estimated expenditures of \$579 million and inflation was a negative 1.3 percent compared with the previous year. Many local millionaires were made within a short time through the leasing of their land.

However, there was an economic storm on the horizon and the economy was starting to cool—but few noticed. At the time the Asian crisis and the decline in visitor entries was unforeseen and unanticipated by most observers, including myself.






I will be forever grateful for the opportunities that came unexpectedly my way and for the wonderful friendships I have been fortunate enough to have made on Saipan. I really did nothing to deserve them. My life on Saipan has been an adventure that I wouldn't have missed for anything in the world.



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼78
Palau	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼77
Yap	Showers	▲87 ▼78
Chuuk	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼80
Pohnpei	Showers	▲85 ▼81
Kosrae	Showers	▲85 ▼81
Majuro	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼81

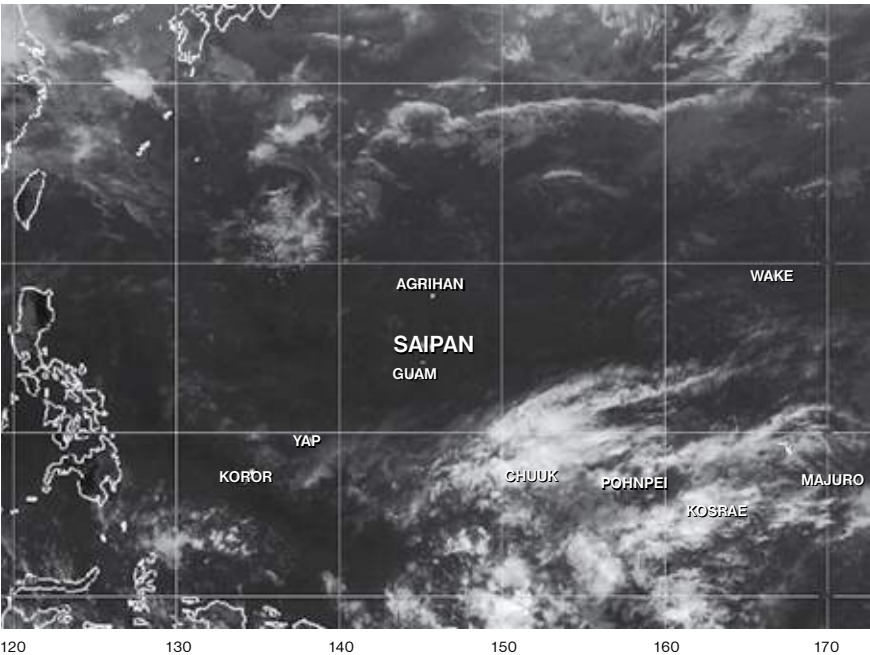
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲65 ▼60
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲66 ▼42
Hong Kong	Showers	▲66 ▼55
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼71
London	Partly Cloudy	▲61 ▼41
Los Angeles	Showers	▲61 ▼49
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲92 ▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲70 ▼61
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲85 ▼69
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲68 ▼45
Osaka	Cloudy	▲58 ▼49
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲64 ▼40
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲57 ▼47
Rome	Showers	▲63 ▼53
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲66 ▼40
San Francisco	Showers	▲59 ▼52
Seoul	Showers	▲58 ▼41
Tokyo	Showers	▲54 ▼50
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲71 ▼47

### Tides

Saipan Harbor			
2:46 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
8:13 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet
12:37 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
8:15 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An old shear line extends southwestward from 25N171E to 24N158E. Cloudiness and scattered showers are found east of Minami Tori Shima along and up to 250 miles north of this boundary. A broad area of trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between the equator and 10N from 147E to 163E. This area includes Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae. A surface trough reaches southeastward from 9N166E to 4N168E. Trade-winds converging near the trough are triggering scattered showers southwest of Kwajalein within 100 miles of a line from 9N166E to 5N168E. Converging trade-winds are also causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southeast of Majuro between 3N and 7N from 170E to 180.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:59 AM	6:33 PM
Friday	5:58 AM	6:33 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:33 PM
Sunday	5:58 AM	6:33 PM
Monday	5:58 AM	6:33 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:31 PM	12:45 AM
Friday	1:31 PM	1:33 AM
Saturday	2:29 PM	2:18 AM
Sunday	3:26 PM	3:01 AM
Monday	4:23 PM	3:44 AM

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

#### PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 7, 2010

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM</b>	<b>GUAM-ROTA (ROP)</b>
C09597 5:00am 5:30am 1, 5	C09598 6:30pm 7:00pm 4, 7
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM</b>	<b>GUAM-SAIPAN</b>
C09317 4:25am 5:15am Daily	C09316 2:45am 3:35am Daily
C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily	C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily
C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7	C09600 10:05am 10:55am Daily
C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm Daily	C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7
C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily	C09604 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily
C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily	C09606 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b>	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b>
DL287 5:55am 8:35am Daily	DL290 10:00am 2:35pm Daily
DL297 3:35pm 6:15pm Daily	DL298 10:30am 3:05pm Daily
DL289 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	DL288 8:40pm 1:15am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b>	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b>
OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 5	OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 4, 7
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b>	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b>
OZ604 2:20am 6:10am 1	OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7
OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b>	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b>
FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b>	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b>
CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b>	<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b>
OZ704/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN	OZ704/605 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7
OZ704/701 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	via ICN
OZ706/703 2:20am 11:00pm 1 via ICN	OZ706/607 3:35am 2:20am+1 4, 7 via PUS
OZ706/703 2:50am 11:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	C0890/9606 10:55am 9:00pm 6 via GUM
OZ708/705 3:20am 12:10am+1 1, 5 via PUS	OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN
C09317/891 4:25am 9:45am 6 via GUM	OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/893 3:05pm 9:10pm 3, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C09603/933 3:05pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM	C0892/9596 10:10pm 7:50am+1 3, 5 via GUM-Palau
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG</b>	<b>HONG KONG-SAIPAN</b>
OZ704/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN	OZ724/605 12:30am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ704/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ750/605 1:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ706/749 3:30pm 11:00pm 4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN
C09603/909 3:05am 9:30pm 1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
<b>SAIPAN-TINIAN</b>	<b>TINIAN-SAIPAN w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>
FRE 101 6:45am 6:55am Daily	FRE 102 7:05am 7:15am Daily
FRE 103 7:30am 7:40am Daily	FRE 104 7:50am 8:00am Daily
FRE 105 8:00am 8:10am Daily	FRE 106** 8:20am 8:30am Daily
FRE 107 8:40am 8:50am Daily	FRE 108** 9:00am 9:10am Daily
FRE 109* 9:10am 9:20am Daily	FRE 110 10:00am 10:10am Daily
FRE 111* 10:45am 10:55am Daily	FRE 112 11:05am 11:15am Daily
<b>SAIPAN-ROTA</b>	FRE 114 12:00pm 12:10pm Daily
FRE 200 9:00am 9:30am Daily	FRE 116 1:30pm 1:40pm Daily
<b>ROTA-GUAM</b>	FRE 118 2:50pm 3:00pm Daily
FRE 200 9:50am 10:15am Daily	FRE 120** 4:20pm 4:30pm Daily
<b>GUAM-ROTA</b>	FRE 122** 5:00pm 5:10pm Daily
FRE 300 4:00pm 4:30pm Daily	FRE 124 6:05pm 6:15pm Daily
<b>ROTA-SAIPAN</b>	FRE 126 6:20pm 6:30pm Daily
FRE 300 4:50pm 5:25pm Daily	

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123*	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125*	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



## 3 claims vs Quichocho, wife dismissed

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The federal court dismissed Wednesday three of the nine claims in the lawsuit filed by an investor against a lawyer and his wife whom he had accused of corporate hijacking racketeering.

U.S. District Court for the NMI judge Mark W. Bennett granted a motion to dismiss filed by lawyer Ramon Quichocho, his law office, and his wife Frances C. Quichocho.

However, in a 46-page opinion and order, Bennett gave Korean businesswoman Jung Ja Kim three months to amend her complaint. If Kim fails to file an amended complaint in that period, the judge said the three claims shall be dismissed with-

out prejudice.

Dismissal without prejudice refers to dismissal that leaves the plaintiff free to try the case again later if circumstances change.

The three claims at issue allege that the Quichocho couple violated the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.

The defendants, through counsel Michael Dotts, argued that the three allegations should be dismissed for failing to state a claim. Dotts cited numerous reasons.

Kim, through counsels Colin Thompson and Robert Torres, opposed the motion. The plaintiff requested that she be allowed to amend her complaint and proceed with the case on the merits if the court determines

that there are deficiencies in her complaint.

In his ruling, Bennett said Kim has not successfully asserted a predicate offense for the money laundering allegation.

"Having not properly alleged wire fraud, money laundering, or any other specified unlawful activity under RICO, Kim has not successfully asserted a predicate act of racketeering under section 1962(b)," Bennett said.

With respect to claim 2, Bennett said he will dismiss the claim for failing to properly plead predicate acts of racketeering activity.

On claim 3, the judge said Kim did not adequately plead a substantive violation of RICO.

"As a result, Kim's conspiracy claim must also fail," he said.

## 1st Tinian local law gives \$28K to students, patients

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The first Tinian local law signed by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial during the 17th Legislature appropriates \$28,000 in poker fees for student scholarships and patients.

Rep. Trenton B. Conner's (R-Tinian) House Local Bill 17-5, D1 became Tinian Local Law 17-1 on March 23.

Of the \$28,000 from local license fees for pachinko slot machines and poker machines, \$24,000 went to the Tinian Municipal Scholarship.

The other \$4,000 went to the monthly sub-

sistence allowance for dialysis, cancer, multiple sclerosis, post-cervical, and vascular accident patients from Tinian.

Under Conner's bill, the Department of Finance secretary shall prepare and disburse the \$4,000 for the Tinian patients' allowance, not to exceed \$2,000 each month for two months until the whole amount is spent. The amount shall be distributed equally among the patients.

The expenditure authority for the scholarship money is the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board.

To date, there have been one local law each for Tinian, Rota and Saipan since the 17th Legislature came into office in January.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



### INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-031

#### "ROOF COATING OF GTC, TANAPAG, GARAPAN, OLEAI ELEMENTARY AND MARIANAS HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Roof Coating of GTC, Tanapag, Garapan, Oleai Elementary and Marianas High School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 22, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee \$34.55.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 12, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than May 14, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-031, and submitted with one original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 11:00 a.m., local time, May 20, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

**This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" provisions.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement & Supply Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



### INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-032

#### "ROOF COATING OF DANDAN, SAN VICENTE, KAGMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, CHACHA JR. HIGH AND KAGMAN HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Roof Coating of Dandan, San Vicente, Kagman Elementary Schools, Chacha Jr. High and Kagman High School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 22, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee \$34.25.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

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All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-032, and submitted with one original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 9:00 a.m., local time, May 20, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

**This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" provisions.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement & Supply Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



### INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-033

#### "ROOF COATING OF WSR ELEMENTARY, HOPWOOD JR. HIGH, SAN ANTONIO ELEMENTARY, KOBLERVILLE ELEMENTARY, AND SAIPAN SOUTHERN HIGH"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Roof Coating of WSR, Hopwood Jr. High, San Antonio Elementary, Koblerville Elementary, and Saipan Southern High** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 22, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee \$34.25.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

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/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement & Supply Officer



# Advertising Feature

## Super Fresh Market turns 1!

On April 17, Triple J Fresh Super Fresh Market celebrated its first anniversary. Their weeklong celebration started on April 16. From that day on there was a good turnout of shoppers that even grew bigger on the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, cumulating into a three-day promo bonanza.

Super Fresh Market staffers were on hand to courteously attend to customers who were shopping for many varieties of deli, dairy, and grocery items, the island's freshest vegetables and fruits, a wide range of

freshly baked items, premium Tyson chicken and high quality pork products, and of course, the pride of their meat section, the world-renowned Certified Angus Beef.

During the three-day celebration, shoppers were treated to a free scoop of Dreyer's ice cream, fresh grilled hotdogs and Shasta sodas, as well as freshly grilled Certified Angus Beef samples, which afforded many the opportunity to taste delicious Ribeye, Chuck, and Flap Tri-Tip Steaks.

The anniversary promos enticed many customers to buy

sale items like the Certified Angus Beef, Hereford Vienna Sausage, Paul's Milk, Shasta soda, and other regularly priced high quality Kraft, Oscar Mayer, and Hawaii Water products distributed by Triple J Five Star Wholesale foods. The food tastings boosted sales of Dreyer's ice cream products.

"We had to continuously replenish stocks of the Dreyer's ice cream on the store in order to cope with the many orders for 1.5 quarts of all flavors," said store supervisors Edward Salvador and Sheila Tolentino. "The Certified Angus Beef was



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Shoppers crowd the Super Fresh Market during the anniversary on April 17, 2010.

a sale blockbuster keeping our butchers busy all weekend," exclaimed store floor manager Jun Pascual.

As part of the successful celebration, Super Fresh Market got full support from its vendors. PTC provided the flags and banners used in the store decors and offered free Pepsi and Sobe Water. Cosmos Distributing Co. Inc. gave promos for their popular biscuits and crackers. Micronesia Bro-

kers Inc. came with their well-known Frito Lays and Doritos. Free bags were offered with every purchase of MARPAC shampoos, deodorants, tissues, diapers, etc.

Super Fresh Market will continue with their promos, including free tasting of their grilled Certified Angus Beef and free scoop of Dreyer's ice cream, on April 23, 24, and 25. General manager Kim Forrester and the friendly Super Fresh Store staff

are inviting everyone to come and see their fresh, high quality selections of meat, produce, dairy, and bakery products.

Super Fresh Market opens daily, including Sunday, from 7am to 9pm. The store accepts food stamps, W.I.C. participants, credit cards and Pacific Express debit card service. And for senior citizens, 5 percent discount is offered for selected items. For more information, call 322-0430. **(Lito Pundol)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021  
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp



### INVITATION FOR BID NMHC IFB 2010-004

This ad is paid with HUD Funds by NMHC

#### Ground Maintenance Services for NMHC's Properties in Rota

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids from interested, licensed companies in the Commonwealth to provide ground maintenance services for its properties in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Interested firms may pick up Bid Specifications at the NMHC Office in Garapan, Saipan or at its Field Office in Songsong Village, Rota, beginning Monday, April 26, 2010, from 7:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., during regular business hours, except CNMI holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Field Office located in the Tamara and Seven Brothers Enterprises Building in Songsong Village on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, at 10:30 a.m.. Bidders will have the opportunity to tour the housing subdivision and other properties owned by NMHC to be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference and site visits are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements, and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed bids must be marked **NMHC IFB 2010-004**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two (2) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, no later than **10:00 a.m., local time May 26, 2010**. Bids received after the date and time will not be accepted. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, May 26, 2010**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two (2) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 26, 2010**, and must be received at Procurement and Supply no later than **June 7, 2010**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at **8:00 a.m., local time, June 8, 2010**. However, if no notice of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m., local time on May 26, 2010**.

NMHC hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contacts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, disabilities or national origin.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference" is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC.

The Commonwealth Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined by the government to be in its best interest. All bids shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

/s/ **MARCIE M. TOMOKANE**  
Chairwoman of the Board

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**  
Director, Procurement & Supply



**NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.**



**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
Office of the Executive Director



### INVITATION FOR BID

**CUC-IFB-10-029**

(Re-Bid of CUC-IFB-10-019)

### SUPPLY OF FUEL FOR LIGHT VEHICLE AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting sealed bids from vendors to supply fuel for CUC's light vehicle and heavy equipment on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. CUC requires diesel and unleaded gasoline to be available twenty-four (24) hours a day and during emergency situations.

The Scope-of-Work may be picked up at CUC, Procurement & Supply Office at Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

**One (1) original and five (5) copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "IFB-10-029, Supply of Fuel for Light Vehicle and Heavy Equipment" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220 Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than April 28, 2010 at 10:00 AM (CHST) local time**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government. All Bids shall become the property of CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing, no later than April 26, 2010, 10:00 AM (CHST), local time, to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer, via email at [msablan@cucgov.net](mailto:msablan@cucgov.net) and Mrs. Deborah Fisher, CUC Legal Counsel at [attorney.fisher@gmail.com](mailto:attorney.fisher@gmail.com).

/s/ **DEBORAH FISHER**  
Legal Counsel

/s/ **ABE UTU MALAE**  
Asst. Exec. Director for Operation

/s/ **ANTONIO S. MUNA**  
Executive Director



# Guam-NMI Committee for ESGR to host a ‘Briefing with The Boss’

Capt. Josephine Blas, the Public Affairs director for the Guam-CNMI Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, is inviting all public and private employers to attend a “Briefing with the Boss” on Friday, April 30, from 10:30am until 12:30pm.

“Many of our employers on Guam and in the CNMI are still uncertain and concerned over

their responsibilities to their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve. This informative briefing will provide employers with answers to ensure compliance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act Law, and suggestions on how best to manage their employees who serve their country in the

National Guard and Reserve,” said Blas.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 650,000 National Guard and Reserve men and women across the United States have left their families and employers to serve on active duty in the Global War on Terrorism. In Guam and the CNMI, there are more than 2,600 members in the Guard and Re-

serve, and of that number, almost 500 are currently deployed away from their loved ones and places of business.

“These Guard and Reserve members serve, work, and live in our community. The outpouring of support continues to be overwhelming and none of this could have been possible without the strong backing from employ-

ers of the brave men and women who serve this great nation, and our islands,” said Blas.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972. The mission of ESGR is to gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and Re-

serve by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law, and resolving conflicts through informal mediation.

To attend this free and informative lunch briefing, contact Capt. Josephine Blas, at the local ESGR Guam-CNMI Office, by calling 671-735-0456 or 671-483-0324 or emailing joblas67@gmail.com. **(ESGR)**

# Upward Bound student to attend Math & Science Summer Program

Angela Prado, a student from the Northern Marianas College Upward Bound Program and Kagman High School, has been selected to attend the four-week Math & Science Summer Program.

The level 1 event is an introductory math and science skills program that focuses on marine science at Monterey Peninsula College in Monterey, California.

The summer program will be held on June 25 through July

25. The four-week summer program is offered in a residential setting on the beautiful campus of the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Prado is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bobison Prado of Tana-pag. During her leisure time, Angela reads novels and cooks. Currently, she is an active member of the KHS National Honor Society.

When asked how she feels about being selected to participate

in the 2010 Monterey Peninsula College Math & Science Summer Program, Prado replied, “I am very excited. I believe this program will help me academically because I am very interested in science and its challenging concepts. I strongly believe that the MSUB Summer Program is a noteworthy opportunity that helps students like me get the most out of college by experience.”

Prado is looking into pedi-at-

rics as a career field. She plans to work for a community hospital to assist children with infirmities.

The program will allow its participants to experience living in a college environment, immersed in a math and science study program with students from other schools who have similar goals. In addition, they will enroll in courses that include marine biology, mathematics, written and oral communications, and college orientation

and personal development.


Along with the rest of the program participants, Prado will also have the privilege of participating in laboratory and field activities that will focus on note taking skills, quantification, observation, description, graphing, independent and group research, experimental techniques, and oral reporting.

Workshops, speeches from guest speakers, counseling, and


enrichment activities will be included in the program to help enhance learning.

“Congratulations Angela, this great opportunity will certainly alter and enhance your academic endeavor in achieving post secondary success,” said NMC Upward Bound Program director Marian Tudela.

The Upward Bound Program is a federally funded TRIO program tasked to motivate disadvantaged high school students to pursue a college education. **(NMC)**



**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. BOX 50514, SAIPAN, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BID

### NMHC IFB2010-R-001

*(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds)*

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, hereby give notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the **Construction of the Saipan Leadership Memorial Kios Ku Project, Phase I**, in Chalan Kanoa Village District No. 2 in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package consisting of Scope of Work, Technical Specifications, Plans and Bid Documents will be available on or after Thursday, April 15, 2010, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference" as amended by Public Law 15-95 and further amended by Public Law 15-118, **is not available** to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

Bidders are also advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act. All wage rates for laborers, mechanics and all other employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid the current minimum wage or the wage determination for the Commonwealth as specified in CM20100001 for the Mariana Islands.

A **pre-bid conference** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 27, 2010**, at the proposed project site in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, across the U.S. Post Office, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed Bids must be marked **"NMHC IFB2010-R-001"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director, Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, Tuesday, May 4, 2010**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, May 4, 2010 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For bidders located outside of the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U. S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than May 4, 2010 AND must be received by Procurement and Supply no later than May 13, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, May 14, 2010. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, the bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m., local time, May 4, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Saipan Leadership Memorial Kios Ku Project, Phase I". Surety companies must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the NMIAC §70.30.3.301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment Bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000. Pursuant to Governor's Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders' chosen Surety. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is ninety (90) calendar days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for the delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00) per calendar day.

**This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant, American Recovery and Reinvestment (CDBG-R) funding provided to the Commonwealth that mandates ALL MATERIALS PURCHASED AND INCORPORATED INTO THE BUILDING/WORK MUST BE MANUFACTURED OR PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**


This project which goal is to provide economic stimulus as well as jobs creation is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them "to the maximum extent feasible."

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.


The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane  
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan,  
Director, Division of Procurement & Supply



**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**  
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## INVITATION FOR BID

### NMHC IFB2010-R-002

*(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds)*

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, hereby give notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the **Installation of the Holding Tank for the Blue Grotto**, in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package consisting of Scope of Work, Technical Specifications, Plans and Bid Documents will be available on or after Friday, April 16, 2010, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference" as amended by Public Law 15-95 and further amended by Public Law 15-118, **is not available** to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

Bidders are also advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act. All wage rates for laborers, mechanics and all other employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid the current minimum wage or the wage determination for the Commonwealth as specified in CM20100001 for the Mariana Islands.

A **pre-bid conference** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 30, 2010**, at the proposed project site in Marpi, Saipan, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed Bids must be marked **"NMHC IFB2010-R-002"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director, Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, Thursday, May 6, 2010**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, May 6, 2010 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For bidders located outside of the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U. S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than May 6, 2010 AND must be received by Procurement and Supply no later than May 17, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, May 18, 2010. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, the bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m., local time, May 6, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Installation of the Holding Tank for the Blue Grotto". Surety companies must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the NMIAC §70.30.3.301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment Bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000. Pursuant to Governor's Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders' chosen Surety. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is forty-five (45) calendar days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for the delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00) per calendar day.

**This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant, American Recovery and Reinvestment (CDBG-R) funding provided to the Commonwealth that mandates ALL MATERIALS PURCHASED AND INCORPORATED INTO THE BUILDING/WORK MUST BE MANUFACTURED OR PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

This project which goal is to provide economic stimulus as well as jobs creation is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them "to the maximum extent feasible."

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane  
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan  
Director, Division of Procurement & Supply



# Business

## Goldman Sachs reports big profits, but troubles mount

NEW YORK (AP)—Goldman Sachs is still the king of Wall Street—at least when it comes to making money.

Four days after being accused by the government of fraud in the subprime mortgage mess, the big investment bank reported blow-out first-quarter profits Tuesday of \$3.3 billion, nearly double from the same period a year ago. But it didn't get to celebrate.

Goldman spent the day defending itself against the Securities and Exchange Commission's charges and saw its troubles mount.

■ Britain's financial regulator began an investigation into the bank's London-based international operations.

■ The European Commission called for tighter regulation of the complex financial investments at the heart of the SEC case.

■ Investors brushed off the eye-popping earnings and sent Goldman's stock falling more than 2 percent. In the past three days, the company's market value has declined by nearly \$13 billion.

Jack A. Ablin, chief investment officer at Harris Private Bank in Chicago, said he

### Banking on fortune

Goldman Sachs revenue ...  
By quarter, in billions



© 2010 MCT  
Source: Bloomberg  
Graphic: Los Angeles Times

couldn't recall another time when a company reported such stellar earnings only to see its stock fall.

The day's events showed how a powerhouse like Goldman can be humbled. The same prowess in cutting deals and making billion-dollar bets that vaulted Goldman to the top of Wall Street is now being faulted, even vilified.

Goldman Sachs Group Inc. executives held conference calls with banking industry analysts and reporters Tuesday, but the questions focused more on the SEC charges than on the firm's earnings.

The charges grew out of a 2007

... and profit  
By quarter, in billions



transaction involving collateralized debt obligations, or CDOs, complex mortgage-related securities that many analysts say helped accelerate the financial crisis and recession when they plunged in value. The government said Goldman did not tell two clients that the CDOs they bought were crafted in part by billionaire hedge fund manager John Paulson, who was betting on them to fail. Goldman has denied the charge.

"Clearly, there's a potential for things to get worse," market analyst Edward Yardeni said, citing the widening probe of the bank's dealings. "The question is how will their clients react."

## GM pays back government loans from US, Canada

DETROIT (AP)—General Motors Co. has repaid the \$8.1 billion in loans it got from the U.S. and Canadian governments, a move its CEO says is a sign automaker is on the road to recovery.

GM CEO Whitacre will formally announce the loan paybacks Wednesday at the company's Fairfax Assembly Plant in Kansas City, Kansas, where he will also announce that GM is investing \$257 million in that factory and the Detroit-Hamtramck plant, both of which

will build the next generation of the midsize Chevrolet Malibu.

GM got a total of \$52 billion from the U.S. government and \$9.5 billion from the Canadian and Ontario governments as it went through bankruptcy protection last year. The U.S. considered as a loan \$6.7 billion of the aid, while the Canadian governments held \$1.4 billion in loans.

The U.S. government payments, made Tuesday, came five years ahead of schedule, and Whitacre said they are a sign

that the automaker is on its way toward reducing government ownership of the company. The payments on the Canadian loans were also made Tuesday.

GM still owes \$45.3 billion to the U.S. and \$8.1 billion to Canada, money it received in exchange for large stakes in the company. The U.S. government now owns 61 percent of the company and Canada owns roughly 12 percent. GM plans to repay both with a public stock offering, perhaps later this year.

person said bankers for United and Continental are discussing how to value the companies in a stock-for-stock swap. That person said talks between United and US Airways have stopped for now with no firm date for starting again. However, the person stressed that United hasn't ruled out a combination with US Airways.

### Google discloses demands for censorship, user data

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Google Inc. has set up a new tool to show where it's facing the most government pressure to censor material and turn over personal information about its users. The country-by-country breakdown released Tuesday on Google's

Web site marks the first time that the Internet search leader has provided such a detailed look at the censorship and data requests that it gets from regulators, courts and other government agencies. The figures, for the roughly 100 countries in which it operates, cover the final half of last year and will be updated every six months. Google posted the numbers nearly a month after it began redirecting search requests to its China-based service. Those requests are now handled in Hong Kong rather than mainland China so Google wouldn't have to obey the country's Internet censorship laws. Google said details about the censorship demands it got while in mainland China still aren't being shared because the information is classified as a state secret.

# Nation

## Report says school food making kids unfit to serve

WASHINGTON (AP)—Too fat to fight? Many American children are so overweight from being fed french fries, pizza and other unhealthy foods at school lunchrooms that they cannot handle the physical rigors of being in the military, a group of retired officers say in a new report.

National security is threatened by the sharp rise in obesity rates for young people over the last 15 years, the group Mission: Readiness contends. Weight problems are now the leading medical reason that recruits are rejected, the group says, and thus jeopardize the military's ability to fill its ranks.

In a report released Tuesday, the group says that 9 million young adults, or 27 percent of

all Americans ages 17 to 24, are too fat to join the military. The retired officers were on Capitol Hill advocating for passage of a wide-ranging nutrition bill that aims to make the nation's school lunches healthier.

The military group acknowledges that other things keep young adults out of the armed services, such as a criminal record or the lack of a high school diploma.

Although all branches of the military now meet or exceed recruitment goals, retired Navy Rear Adm. James Barnett Jr., a member of the officers group, says the obesity trend could affect that.

"When over a quarter of young adults are too fat to fight, we need to take notice," Barnett said. He noted that na-

tional security in the year 2030 is "absolutely dependent" on reversing child obesity rates.

Recruitment isn't the only problem posed by obesity. According to the report, the government spends tens of millions of dollars every year to train replacements for service members discharged because of weight problems.

This isn't the first time the military has gotten involved in the debate over school lunches. During World War II, military leaders had the opposite problem, reporting that many recruits were rejected because of stunted growth and inadequate nutrition. After the war, military leaders pushed Congress to establish the national school lunch program so children would grow up healthier.

## Police: Hospital shooter mentally ill, had grudge

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A mentally ill convenience store operator took a revolver with him to look for the doctor he believed implanted a tracking device in his body during an appendectomy in 2001. Told the doctor wasn't at the hospital, he went to a nearby parking lot and opened fire on three hospital workers he apparently didn't know, killing one of them.

Gunman Abdo Ibssa (AB'-doh IHB'-sah) entered a medical tower near Parkwest Medical Center before Monday's attack and asked for the doctor who performed the appendectomy, Knoxville Police Chief Sterling Owen IV said. Unable to find the doctor, Ibssa went to



AP  
Public safety personnel swarm the patient discharge exit of Parkwest Medical Center after a shooting Monday, April 19, 2010 in Knoxville, Tenn.

another area where patients are discharged and opened fire on the women as they walked out of the building.

Ibssa, who police believe had been skipping doses of medication for psychotic behavior, killed himself to end the shooting, which occurred a day before his 39th birthday.

"There was less than 5 seconds from the time of the first shot until the last shot," Owen said at a news conference Tuesday.

Investigators found a note at Ibssa's Knoxville apartment in which the gunman said the doctor had implanted a chip that was being used to track his movements, Owen said.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### 14 reputed Gambino family members charged in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—A reputed boss of the Gambino organized crime family and 13 other people are facing an array of charges, including what prosecutors called new criminal territory for the mob: sex trafficking of a minor, according to an indictment unsealed Tuesday. Papers filed in federal court in Manhattan allege that Gambino soldiers and associates recruited prostitutes at strip clubs, including a 15-year-old, and advertised their services on the Internet. Prosecutors said the mobsters drove the prostitutes to appointments in Manhattan, Staten Island, Brooklyn and New Jersey, splitting their earnings with them. The defendants also "made the young women available for sex to the players at the regular high-stakes poker

games" hosted by the family, the court papers said.

#### Blagojevich calls feds 'cowards and liars'

CHICAGO (AP)—Former Gov. Rod Blagojevich described the federal prosecutors who have brought racketeering and fraud charges against him as "cowards and liars" Tuesday and challenged Chicago's U.S. attorney to meet him face to face in court if he is "man enough." In an extraordinary outburst timed to go live on evening news shows, Blagojevich said prosecutors had treated his wife unfairly and were now "sneaking into court" in an effort to prevent jurors from hearing all of the tapes the FBI made of his telephone conversations. "They are cowards and they are liars," Blagojevich said, raising his voice to a full-throated shout as he stood before a battery of

cameras in front of his lawyer's South Side office.

#### Group wants evangelist's Pentagon event canceled

DENVER (AP)—A watchdog group objected Tuesday to an evangelist's invitation to speak at the Pentagon next month, saying his past description of Islam as "evil" offended Muslims who work for the Department of Defense and the appearance should be canceled. Mikey Weinstein, president of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation, said inviting evangelist Franklin Graham to speak May 6, the National Day of Prayer, "would be like bringing someone in on national prayer day madly denigrating Christianity" or other religious groups. It would also endanger American troops by stirring up Muslim extremists, Weinstein said.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Talks deepen between United and Continental

DALLAS (AP)—United Airlines and Continental Airlines are in the early stages of exchanging financial information that could lead to a deal to combine and create the world's biggest airline, people briefed on the talks said Tuesday. United had been talking with US Airways about a combination, but speculation has increased that United is more interested in the larger Continental. The exchange of information between United and Continental was confirmed Tuesday by two people who were briefed on the talks. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the negotiations. One



# Asia

## Filipino slaying suspect endorses Noynoy

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—The principal suspect in the Philippines’ worst political massacre professed his innocence and endorsed a presidential candidate in a much-criticized press conference held in the capital’s maximum-security jail.

“I know very well that I am not the perpetrator because I was in my town hall then,” Andal Ampatuan Jr., former mayor of a town in southern Maguindanao province, told a group of journalists.

Looking fresh and relaxed in a yellow shirt and arm band, Ampatuan endorsed Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr., the opposition candidate who is leading in the polls ahead of the May 10 presidential elections. Aquino shrugged off the endorsement, saying he did not ask for it. His followers suspected it may have been a plot by the rivals of Aquino, who is leading in popularity surveys, to sully his name by linking it to a crime suspect.

The news conference sparked condemnation and fueled accusations that the current government of President



AP  
Andal Ampatuan Jr., center, a principal suspect in a recent massacre that killed 57 political rivals and journalists, flashes the “Laban” sign which means fight as he is escorted by guards at the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology in Taguig, south of Manila, on Tuesday April 20, 2010.

Gloria Macapagal Arroyo is favoring the powerful Ampatuan clan, which is suspected of plotting and carrying out the Nov. 23 massacre of 57 people.

“We condemn this in the strongest terms, this is so callous,” said Harry Roque, lawyer of the slain journalists. “This is another indication that we cannot get justice under this administration.”

The massacre was unprec-

edented in a country known for election violence and political killings that have claimed hundreds of lives in the past decade. Among the victims were more than 30 journalists and their staff—the deadliest known attack on media workers in the world. The killings elevated the Philippines to the top of a list of the world’s most dangerous places for reporters.

## Thai protesters fortify camps in heart of Bangkok

**BANGKOK** (AP)—Tensions escalated in the standoff between anti-government demonstrators and Thai security forces as the army said Tuesday deadly force could be used against protesters besieging the heart of the capital.

The so-called “Red Shirt” demonstrators, meanwhile, reinforced defenses at their urban encampment—already shrouded with netting to foil the prying eyes of potential attackers—and prepared

homemade weapons including hundreds of sharpened bamboo poles and broken up pavement stones.

No new clashes were reported as the Red Shirts, who have occupied Bangkok’s streets for more than five weeks, abandoned plans to march into the central business district after soldiers in full combat gear were garri-soned there to bar the way.

The protesters consist mainly of poor rural supporters of

former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and pro-democracy activists who opposed the military coup that ousted him in 2006. They want Parliament dissolved immediately and new elections called.

They believe Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva’s government is illegitimate because it came to power through a parliamentary vote after disputed court rulings ousted two elected, pro-Thaksin administrations.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

**NATO troops kill 4 unarmed Afghans**  
**KABUL** (AP)—NATO troops fired on a vehicle that approached their convoy in eastern Afghanistan, killing four unarmed Afghans and drawing swift condemnation from President Hamid Karzai. NATO said Tuesday two of those killed Monday night were later identified as “known insurgents,” but Karzai and the provincial chief of police, Abdul Hakim Hesaq Zoy, said they were all civilians. Zoy said one of the victims was a 12-year-old boy. Lt. Col. Todd Vician, a NATO spokesman in Kabul, said the four were found to be unarmed. He added the military concluded two of the men were insurgents based on information found in the military’s bio-metric database.

**Rare Borneo rhino maybe has baby**  
**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia** (AP)—Malaysian conservationists caught on film a Sumatran rhinoceros thought to be pregnant, raising hopes that the critically endangered species on Borneo island was breeding in the wild, an official said Wednesday. A remotely controlled camera set up in a forest in Sabah state on Borneo captured a still picture of the rhino on Feb. 25, said Raymond Alfred of the World Wildlife Fund. It is the

first such image in the wild of a female thought to be pregnant, providing cheer to conservationists after the initial failure of a breeding-in-captivity program for the Borneo Sumatran rhino, whose numbers are believed to have dwindled to less than 30.

**Pakistan: Islamist blames US for suicide bombing**  
**PESHAWAR, Pakistan** (AP)—An Islamist politician whose party lost several members in a suicide attack blamed Pakistan’s alliance with the U.S. for the violence and urged Islamabad on Tuesday to break ranks in the war on terror. The comments showed the depth of anti-Americanism in Pakistan, whose support Washington considers key to stabilizing neighboring Afghanistan. In the past three days, attacks in Pakistan have killed more than 70 people in a new wave of violence. A remote controlled bomb Tuesday hit an army convoy as it traveled in the Hangu district close to the Afghan border, killing three Pakistani soldiers and a civilian, said police official Farid Khan. The convoy was transporting the body of a soldier killed Monday in a suicide bombing in the northwestern city of Peshawar.

# World

## Flights resume in Europe but travel chaos not over

**LONDON** (AP)—Europe’s busiest airport reopened Tuesday as air traffic across the continent lurched back to life. But the gridlock created by Iceland’s volcanic ash plume was far from over: Officials said it would be weeks before all stranded travelers could be brought home.

Passengers wept with relief as flights took off from Paris’ Charles de Gaulle Airport, Amsterdam and elsewhere. A jetliner from Vancouver, British Columbia, was the first to land at London’s Heathrow airport, the continent’s busiest, since the volcano erupted last week.

British Airways said it expected about two dozen flights from the United States, Africa and Asia to land by early Wednesday.

Travelers cheered as the first European flights took off.

Jenny Lynn Cohen, waiting at Charles de Gaulle to travel to San Francisco, had a boarding pass but could hardly believe she was going to fly.

“I am a little afraid—I am hopeful that the plane will take off, and that it won’t meet with any volcanic ash,” she said.

Chris James, arriving at Heathrow from Mauritius, told the British Broadcasting Corp. that passengers on his flight didn’t know they would land in London until 45 minutes before their plane touched down.

“Initially it was quite a stressful situation, we didn’t know what was happening,” James said.

The Eurocontrol air traffic agency said it expected just under half of the 27,500 flights over Europe to go ahead Tuesday, a marked improvement over the last few days. The agency predicted close to normal takeoffs by Friday.

It was the first day since the April 14 eruption of Iceland’s Eyjafjallajökull (ay-yah-FYAH-lah-yer-kuhl) volcano—dormant for nearly 200 years—that travelers were given a reason for hope.

“The situation today is much improved,” said Brian Flynn, deputy head of operations at the Brussels-based agency.

Conditions changed fast. Airspace in Germany remained officially closed, but about 800 flights were allowed at low altitude.

Rita and Peter Meyer said they had to share a hotel room with two strangers in Singapore while waiting to find a way home to Germany. News that they could fly to Frankfurt airport came as they slept.

“Just after midnight—after an hour’s sleep—the phone rang (and they said), ‘Everyone downstairs, get in taxis to the airport,’” Rita Meyer said.

But with more than 95,000 flights canceled in the last week alone, airlines faced the enormous task of working through the backlog to get passengers where they want to go—a challenge that could take days or even weeks.

Passengers with current tickets were being given priority; those who had been stranded for days were told to either buy a new ticket or take their chances using the old one—a wait that could be days or weeks for the next available seat.

“Once your flight’s canceled, you go to the back of the queue,” said Laurie Price, director of

aviation strategy at consultant Mott MacDonald, who was stranded in Halifax, Canada. “It seems intrinsically unfair.”

The volcano that prompted the turmoil continued to rumble, and tremors could be heard and felt as far as 15 miles (25 kilometers) from the crater.

“It’s like a shaking in the belly. People in the area are disturbed by this,” said Kristin Vogfjord, a geologist at the Icelandic Met Office.

Land and water at farms in the ash zone have suffered since the volcano’s eruption, with normally green pastures turned black and hard by the ash.

**Robert Tenorio Torres**  
**Attorney at Law**  
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Attorney for Bank of Guam

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA  
ISLANDS**

<b>BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff,</b>	<b>Civil Action No. 09-0027-CV</b>
<b>vs.</b>	
<b>MARTIN B. ADA, Defendants.</b>	<b>NOTICE OF SALE</b>

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on March 30, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 566 NEW-9-2-R1, consisting of 873 square meters, and Lot No. 566 NEW-9-2-R2, consisting of 2,194 square meters located in San Vicente, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Located on the property is a fully concrete, three bedroom, one bathroom house with a porch and one car garage / carport. House is approximately 15 years old, and in need of some interior repair. Existing power and sewage hook-up, and paved road to house.

**Date, Time, and Place of Sale.** The sale will be held on **June 1, 2010**, at the hour of **10:00 am**, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.**

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
  - a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
  - b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
  - c) To reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
3. Deposit. Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 8th day of April, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

**Robert Tenorio Torres**  
**Attorney at Law**  
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)  
P.O. Box 503758  
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859  
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA  
ISLANDS**

<b>BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff,</b>	<b>Civil Action No. 09-0028-CV</b>
<b>vs.</b>	
<b>MARTIN B. ADA, Defendants.</b>	<b>NOTICE OF SALE</b>

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on March 30, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 011 H 28, consisting of 650 square meters located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Located on the lot is a fully concrete, seven bedroom, one bathroom house with a porch and carport. House is approximately 15 years old, and in need of some repair. There are existing power and sewage hook-ups.

**Date, Time, and Place of Sale.** The sale will be held on **June 1, 2010**, at the hour of **10:00 am**, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.**

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DATED this 8th day of April, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer



# Environment

## Young Farmers Club at SVES keep on growing!

Want to know how hydroponics works? What are the best tomatoes to grow on Saipan? How about papayas or lettuce? Why should you watch out for ironwood trees? What's the hardest part of growing veggies? What kind of rats should you worry about? What's better, hydroponics or aeroponics? Can I make my own hydroponics garden cheaply with recycled materials? What exactly are plants on steroids? Want the answers? Just ask the San Vicente School Young Farmers Club. This group of students from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade has been asking questions and finding answers. They've also been growing healthy food and making money for their school.

Ilyssa Geronimo won first place in Technology at the CNMI Science, Technology, Electronics, and Math (STEM) Fair and is headed to the Guam science fair in May. She produced a DVD on *Farming for the Future: How Hydroponics Works*.

"Growing plants off the ground without soil is the fastest way to grow veggies and you don't need pesticides. I'll burn a copy for you if you'd like to learn," Ilyssa said.

"I'll burn a copy of my video for you too," said 3<sup>rd</sup> grader Helen Gramlich. She got second in Technology at the STEM Fair. Her DVD shows how to make your own mini hydro garden with \$50 and stuff that's probably lying around your yard. "We're growing lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, two kinds of peppers and spinach in a 15 gallon Tupperware container," she said.

Tomatoes? Annika Matias knows all about them. She grabbed second place at the SVES Science Fair. Her project took eight months to complete. She wanted to find out which hybrid tomatoes grow best on Saipan. The first seeds she planted were hybrid varieties from the States. They had nice big tasty fruit, but not very much. The plants flowered but a lot of the fruit didn't set. She hypothe-



The Young Farmers

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Vanessa and Carlene with carrots.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mr G's Red Lady.

sized that our hot climate might be the culprit. So she checked the Internet for varieties more suited to Saipan's weather. She struck gold (or red) with varieties like "Heat Master," "Solar Set," and "Sun Leader."

"They grew lots of big delicious fruit. One vine has already produced over 10 pounds," Annika said.

SVES parent Greg Borja has nothing but high praise for the tomatoes. "They're the biggest tomatoes I've seen on Saipan, just right for sandwiches." His wife, Mel, likes how firm and fresh they were.

Want great lettuce? Green Ice and Butter Crunch won the taste test at the SVES Science Fair. Alvin Arcega, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, grows 6-lb papayas and found that extra Co2, while warming the Earth, will grow plants faster.

Salofi Welch is growing huge broccoli, and finding that, according to his science project, rainwater tastes better than bottled water from different companies, but needs treatment to be safe.

What's scary about ironwood trees? Ask Davilyne Hocog and Maria Fleming. "We made some funny mistakes when we first started. We had the rain gutters fixed up on some class-

rooms under the ironwood trees to catch rainwater, but we didn't clean the water tank. It was full of ironwood needles. The water killed our plants. Seeds wouldn't sprout. We cleaned lots of muck out and then things grew great. Ever notice how not much grows under those pine trees?"

Do you like papayas? They're tasty and fight cancer. The Young Farmers have planted hundreds of papaya trees. There are over 100 trees planted on campus and at an off-campus farm. All proceeds from the off campus farm go to the Leroy Camacho Scholarship Fund. They tested eight varieties from Red Lady to improved Hawaiian Solo to Tainung 1 and 2. Which should you plant? Ask Ciaralyn Apostol. "If you want



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Vanessa's project.

a lot of big, sweet, juicy fruit go with Red Lady. One tree had over 20 fruit from 3 to 6 lbs each. Red Lady grew the most fruit, but we also did a taste-test before the science fair. People preferred the Hawaiian Solo for flavor—they're creamier. We're planting Red Ladies to sell, but we eat the Solos. "

Speaking of selling, the Young Farmers has raised over \$1,100 for their school by selling fruit, veggies, and plants.

Emmanuel Cobacha grows sweet corn. "We tried growing

some hybrid sweet corn. We didn't sell any though...because we ate it all! It was so sweet and juicy. We ate it raw right off of the plant."

First graders Taishondre Isamu and CJ Patris's carrots didn't make it to the salad or soup either. They got eaten on the way home. "They were sweet and tasty," Tai said. CJ's older sister Carlene makes cutting from tangerines, roses, and gardenias. She watches the roots grow in the cloning machine. "We have a one foot tall lemon plant from a cutting that already has fruit," she said.

Anneli Arcega wanted to know what works better, passive hydroponics, or aeroponics (if you don't know the difference,

the CNMI STEM Fair with her project "Do Commercial Fertilizers and Plant Growth Hormones Really Work?" She tested identical plants grown in identical conditions except for the addition of Miracle Grow and/or Gibberellic Acid (a plant growth hormone). According to Vanessa's results, "The fertilizer and growth hormone increased plant growth up to 54 percent. But the growth hormone didn't really help more than the fertilizer and wasn't worth the time and money."

So, what's the hardest part of growing your own veggies? Actually it seems to be just getting that first seed in to the garden. So the SVES Young farmers would like to help you be more



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Salofi and Anneli with corn.

you better watch Ilyssa's video.) She used the scientific method to find out. She grew several types of identical veggies in each type system, measured and compared their growth, then reached a conclusion. "Aeroponics is the latest fad in hydroponics. The roots are sprayed with a nutrient solution and the plants grow up to twice as fast. But aeroponics systems are more expensive. The passive system grows great veggies; it just takes a little longer."

What about those rats? Ask Anneli's little sister Angela. "It's not the four-legged rats you have to watch out for, it's the two-legged ones who like to steal," she said.

And what exactly are plants on steroids? Vanessa Gramlich is going to the Guam Science Fair with Ilyssa. She nabbed first place in Life Science at

self-sufficient. They are having a plant sale this Saturday, April 24, between 8am and 12pm at the bus shelter. They have papaya, tomato, basil, mint, oregano, beans, cucumber, eggplant, pepper, green onions, seedless tangerine and lemon plants. They also have gardenia, ylang-ylang, Kennedy hibiscus and zinnia flowering plants for sale. All are ready to plant or repot for one's summer garden at prices of only \$3 to \$7.

They will also have some mini-hydroponic systems to check out or buy. All proceeds go back to SVES.

Help support these hard-working students, grow your own healthy food and be a young farmer too! It's not easy; some plants may die, but remember the San Vicente Young Farmers' motto: Never give up! (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ilyssa's lettuce taste test.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Homegrown salad.



## Life & Style

# American Idol winner sparks smoking debate

**BOGOR, Indonesia (AP)**—Just a few miles after passing a towering Marlboro Man ad, a second billboard off the highway promotes cigarettes with a new American face: Kelly Clarkson.

The former American Idol winner invites fans to buy tickets to her upcoming concert in Jakarta, the nation's capital. The logo of her sponsor is splashed in huge type above her head—the popular Indonesian cigarette brand L.A. Lights. Similar ads also run on TV.

Such in-your-face tobacco advertising has been banned for years in the U.S. and many other countries. But in Indonesia, the world's fourth most populous nation, tobacco companies have virtual free rein to peddle their products, from movies to sports sponsorships and television shows. The country remains one of the last holdouts that has not signed the World Health Organization's tobacco treaty.

As smoking has declined in many Western countries, it has risen in Indonesia—about 63 percent of all men light up and one-third of the overall population smokes, an increase of 26 percent since 1995. Smoking-related illnesses kill at least 200,000 annually in a nation of 235 million.

"Indonesia is a big concern, a big epidemic, a big population, and very little control," said Dr. Prabhat Jha, a tobacco control expert at the University of Toronto's Center for Global Health Research. "They have a chaotic taxation and regulatory structure. They have made the mistake of letting the Marlboro Man into the country."

In recent months, anti-tobacco forces have rallied. A new health law has declared smoking addictive and urged the government to hammer out tobacco regulations. An anti-smoking coalition is pushing for tighter restrictions on smoking in public places, advertising bans and bigger health warnings on cigarette packages.

Public debate also exploded last month after Indonesia's second-largest Islamic organization, Muhammadiyah, issued a fatwa banning smoking. Though not legally binding, the religious ruling does put pressure on smokers in the world's most populous Muslim nation.

Anti-smoking advocates now hope Clarkson will drop the sponsorship of Indonesia's third-largest tobacco company, Djarum. A growing number of voices have started pleading with the Grammy-winning pop star on her Facebook page.



In this photo taken on Sunday, April 17, 2010, a food vendor walks past a banner promoting a Kelly Clarkson concert sponsored by a cigarette brand L.A. Lights, in Bogor, West Java, Indonesia.

Two years ago, a tobacco affiliate of U.S.-based Philip Morris International, which dominates Indonesia's tobacco market, removed its logo from ads promoting an Alicia Keys concert in Jakarta after the singer publicly denounced the sponsorship and apologized to her fans.

"If Kelly Clarkson goes ahead with the concert, she is by choice being a spokesman for the tobacco industry and helping them to market to children," said Matt Myers, president of the U.S.-based Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, which has urged Clarkson to drop the sponsorship.

"She has the power now to turn this situation around and to send a clear message to Indonesian young people and, frankly, to the young people of the world."

The Associated Press left messages and e-mailed representatives at Clarkson's management company, Starstruck Entertainment in Nashville, as well as representatives at her record label, RCA Records in New York. Neither responded to repeated requests for comment.

About a quarter of Indonesian boys aged 13 to 15 are already hooked on cigarettes that sell for about \$1 a pack or as little as a few cents apiece, according to WHO. A video on YouTube last

month prompted outrage when a 4-year-old Indonesian boy was shown blowing smoke rings and flicking a cigarette. His parents say he's been smoking up to a pack a day since he was 2.

L.A. Lights company Djarum declined to comment on its sponsorship of the April 29 Clarkson concert, or on accusations that it markets cigarettes to young people. But the company's international brand manager, Roland Halim, said it abides by government restrictions on tobacco advertising.

Philip Morris affiliate HM Sampoerna said in a statement it has urged the government to adopt tougher regulations on cigarette sales and ads, including age limits on buying tobacco, billboard restrictions and the phasing out of television commercials.

"We recognize that our products, like all tobacco products, cause disease and are addictive," it said. "Our advertising is intended solely for adult smokers. We sponsor events in compliance with Indonesian law. We do not advertise to minors."

Smoking is embedded in Indonesia's culture. Wafts of a pungent mixture of tobacco and cloves, called kreteks, can be smelled in houses rich and poor across the vast archipelago.

## Wash. woman drops rape lawsuit against Copperfield

**SEATTLE (AP)**—A woman who accused David Copperfield of luring her to his private island in the Bahamas and raping her—and who was later charged with fabricating sexual assault claims against another man—dropped her federal lawsuit against the magician Tuesday.

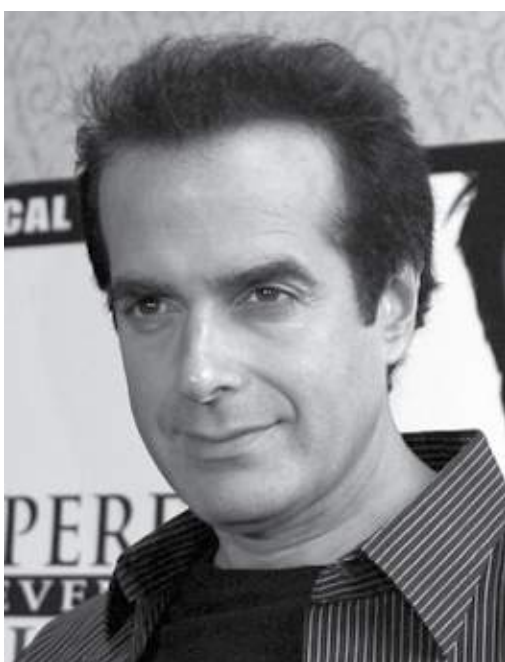
Attorneys for model and waitress Lacey Carroll announced her decision in a news release—just days after a federal judge ruled that Copperfield's attorneys would be allowed to question her under oath this week.

"It has never been about money," Carroll said in the statement. "I just wanted him held accountable for what he did."

The Associated Press does not typically name people who may be victims of sexual assault, but in this case, Carroll's lawyers identified her in the news release with her consent.

Carroll claimed Copperfield pulled her out of the crowd during a show in Kennewick, in southeastern Washington. She was later invited to visit his island in July 2007. The trip was supposed to lead to possible modeling gigs doing promotional brochures or other materials for Copperfield, she claimed, but Copperfield forced her to perform sex acts instead.

The FBI and federal prosecutors spent more than two years investigating the allegations and even searched Copperfield's Las Vegas warehouse but closed the case early this year without filing criminal



In this Sept. 27, 2006 file photo, U.S. illusionist David Copperfield arrives for a news conference in Vienna, Austria.

charges and without explaining the decision.

Carroll filed her civil lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Seattle seeking damages from Copperfield last July.

"Carroll's lawsuit was nothing but a pathetic attempt to extort Mr. Copperfield for money with malicious and false allegations," said Copperfield's Seattle attorney, Angelo Calfo. "There was no settlement. Mr. Copperfield would not and did not pay Carroll a dime to drop her lawsuit."

Calfo said his client's view of the case was vindicated when Carroll was charged with making a false sexual assault claim against

another man in Bellevue, Wash., late last year.

In that case, police said, Carroll reported she was sexually assaulted by a man who was a customer at the restaurant where she worked. She told police she may have been drugged and woke up in a hotel room to find the man on top of her.

As Carroll left the hotel room and began telling hotel staff she had been taken advantage of, the man called police and reported he was being extorted, according to Bellevue Police Department records. Carroll had left the room and made up the story after he refused to pay her \$2,000 for sex, he said.

A woman who was with the pair earlier in the night said Carroll had been sexually aggressive with the man, and hotel surveillance video showed them hugging and kissing in the lobby, police said.

## DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

### Delgadina Villanueva Santos

Fondly called "Del"

Born September 7, 1948 and Died on April 15, 2010

*'Then he adds. Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more'*

—Hebrew 10:17

#### NOW JOINS:

**Son:** †Paul Villanueva Ada the First  
**Grandson:** †Herman Indalecio Ada  
**Grandson:** †John Paul Egipto Ada  
**Mother:** †Antonia Pangelinan Sablan  
**Father:** †Antonio Aldan Villanueva  
**Step Father:** †Eulogio Torres Sablan  
**Brother:** †Francisco Pangelinan Villanueva  
**Brother:** †Joaquin Pangelinan Villanueva  
**Brother:** †Antonio Pangelinan Villanueva  
**Sister:** †Alicia Pangelinan Sablan  
**Sister-In-Law:** †Margarita Basa Villanueva  
**Father/Mother In-Law:** †Pedro (Torres)/ Sophia Aguon Santos  
**Son-In-Law:** †Odilio DLC. Cabrera  
**Nephew:** †Gary Glenn Basa Villanueva

#### SHE WILL BE MISSED BY:

**Husband:** Nicolas Aguon Santos  
**Daughter:** Josephine Ada Cabrera / Children (Texas)  
**Son:** Joseph Villanueva Ada / Children (Hawaii)  
**Son:** James Villanueva Ada / Bertha / Children (Saipan)  
**Son:** Paul Villanueva Ada / Tricilla / Children (Florida)  
**Rear Children:** Pedro E. / Antonia Santos (Guam), Sophia E. Santos (Guam), Edward E. Santos (Guam), Patricia E. Santos (Guam), Jovita / Ben Lemchig (Oklahoma), Francisco E. / Lyn Santos (Philippines), Nicolas Jr. / Rebecca Santos (Guam), Sandra E. / Ralph Ada (Guam), William E. / Angela Santos (Saipan), Nicolas Anthony V. Santos (Guam), Delgadina Rae V. Santos (Florida)  
**Siblings:** Patricia P. Sablan / Children, Diana P. / Bill Salas / Children, Eulogio P. Dawn Sablan / Children, Alexander colonel / Romila Sablan / Children, Ana S. Romeo Yutig / Children, George S. / Joaquina Sablan / Children, Vicente / Martina D. Camacho / Children  
**In-Laws:** Sally B. Villanueva / Children, Agnes D. Villanueva / Children

Rosary offered at 7:30 pm at Kristo Rai Church. Remains will be escorted to Capital Hill at Santos' Residence and from there will proceed to Kristo Rai Church. On Friday April 23rd viewing and final rosary starts at 7:00am to 10:00am at Kristo Rai Church.

Mass will be at 10:00 am followed by Christian Burial at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery. Lunch will be served at Kristo Rai Social Hall following the Mass.

**Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase Ginen I Familia Todo**



# Cirque to put on show based on Michael Jackson

LOS ANGELES (AP)—First the Beatles and Elvis, now Michael Jackson.

The acrobatic troupe Cirque du Soleil announced Tuesday that it will put on a live touring show featuring the songs of the King of Pop starting late next year.

That will be followed by a permanent production in Las Vegas in 2012 at a property owned by MGM Mirage Inc. The casino company did not say which venue will host the show. A nightclub in Las Vegas will also open with the show.

Cirque and Jackson's estate will each own 50 percent of the projects and share equally in the cost of putting them on. The estate will also receive royalties from the use of Jackson's music and other assets.

Jackson, who died at age 50 last June after a drug overdose, was described as a "huge fan"



AP  
In this March 5, 2009 file photo, US singer Michael Jackson is shown at a press conference in London.

of the French Canadian performance group.

He saw their first tent show in Santa Monica, Calif., many years ago with longtime lawyer and now estate co-executor, John Branca. And he visited their Montreal headquarters in 2004, Cirque CEO Daniel Lamarre said.

"He said he was an acrobat himself," Lamarre said in an interview. "As an artist he had this amazing way of bringing some visual element to his performances."

Jackson even saw "Love," the Cirque show based on the legacy and music of the Beatles, shortly after it began at the Mirage casino in Las Vegas in 2006, and wanted to do his own version, said Jack Wishna, the president of consulting firm CPAmerica Inc. and a prospective business partner.

Ideas for Jackson's own Cirque show ranged from basing it on his hit video "Thriller" to him performing dozens of his No. 1 hits, Wishna said.

"But he passed away and everything just went by the wayside," he said. "It's a little differ-

ent now, but at least it'll still get on. The music will still be there."

The touring show, which will begin in North America before branching out around the world, will be a simulation of a Jackson concert, while the Las Vegas show will be more theatrical and more technologically advanced, Lamarre said.

"The expectations of Michael Jackson fans around the world are going to be huge," he said. "And we have to deliver."

There are no plans for other members of Jackson's family to perform.

Before Jackson decided on a series of comeback concerts at the O2 arena in London, he was seen several years ago in Las Vegas and considered performing there.

Branca said Jackson would have approved of a Cirque tribute.

"I'm not convinced he would have gone to Las Vegas and performed like Celine Dion did," he said in an interview. "But this is something Michael would be very excited about."

Unreleased Jackson recordings may become part of the shows'

musical numbers, and his biggest hits will likely be remixed and mashed up so fans will hear his music in a new way, Branca said.

The other co-executor, John McClain, a Jackson friend and music producer, has discovered more than 60 songs that Jackson recorded but never released. They form the backbone of a seven-year deal with Sony Music Entertainment worth up to \$250 million. A new album from the recordings is set for release in November.

Jackson's mother, Katherine, said in a statement, "Our family is thrilled that Cirque du Soleil will pay tribute to my son in such an important way."

Jackson died after overdosing on propofol and other sedatives. He was about to start a series of comeback concerts he called "This Is It." The concert movie based on rehearsal footage went on to gross \$252 million worldwide.

His personal physician, Dr. Conrad Murray, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of involuntary manslaughter. He is expected to go to trial this summer.

## Michael Douglas' son gets 5-year prison sentence

NEW YORK (AP)—A judge sentenced Michael Douglas' son to five years in prison Tuesday for dealing methamphetamine from a trendy Manhattan hotel, calling it his "last chance to make it."

U.S. District Judge Richard M. Berman announced the sentence after hearing 31-year-old Cameron Douglas ask for mercy as his Academy Award-winning father and mother, Diandra, listened behind him in a packed courtroom.

"I'd like to apologize to my family and my loved ones for putting them through this nightmare of my making," Douglas said.

The Hollywood scion and admitted heroin addict also was ordered to forfeit \$300,000. A pre-sentence report listed his net worth as \$500,000.

As they left federal court in Manhattan, Michael Douglas and his ex-wife had to fight through a



AP  
Michael Douglas arrives at Manhattan federal court for the sentencing of his son Cameron Douglas, Tuesday, April 20, 2010, in New York.

writhing mass of photographers to reach a waiting SUV.

Federal agents arrested Douglas last summer at the Hotel Gansevoort in Manhattan's Meatpacking District. Prosecutors alleged that he was the mid-

dleman in a scheme to smuggle large amounts of meth from California to New York, sometimes using overnight mail.

Early in a sentencing hearing that stretched more than an hour, the judge described how Douglas had abused drugs since age 13 and noted that he had been sober in prison since last August, his longest drug-free stint since his teenage years.

He noted that he had read at least 37 letters of support from family—including his film legend grandfather, Kirk, stepmother Catherine Zeta-Jones and NBA executive Pat Riley—friends and supporters who "believe he has finally bottomed out in terms of his addiction and may be ready to turn his life around."

But Berman also expressed doubt Douglas would turn his back on drugs after pleading guilty in January to conspiracy to distribute drugs.

"In my estimation, that will be a very difficult chore," he said. "I think this case and this sentencing may well be his last chance to make it."

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Saturday	1:10	4:30	7:25
Sunday	1:10	4:30	7:25
Mon thru Thurs	4:30	7:25	

**Aaron Johnson, Nicolas Cage**  
Action • Rated R

**Synopsis**  
Mark Millar's violent comic tale of wannabe superheroes is adapted by writer/director Matthew Vaughn (Layer Cake) with this Marv Films production. Aaron Johnson stars as a teen who steps out of his house one day with a mask and a painted baseball bat and starts to fight crime even though he has no superpowers. Lyndsy Fonseca co-stars as the character's object of desire, with Nicolas Cage also appearing as an ex-cop whose hatred of a drug lord forces him to train his daughter to be a lethal vigilante.

**Date Night**

Friday	4:10	7:30	9:35
Saturday	1:20	4:10	7:30
Sunday	1:20	4:10	7:30
Mon thru Thurs	4:10	7:30	

**Steve Carrell, Tina Fey**  
Comedy • Rated PG 13

**Synopsis**  
Steve Carrell and Tina Fey star in director Shawn Levy's comedy about a couple whose routine date night becomes anything but when dinner and a movie just won't suffice anymore. Their union in imminent danger of becoming hopelessly monotonous, the desperate couple goes to unprecedented lengths in order to preserve the spark.

**Clash Of The Titans**

Friday	4:25	7:20	9:45
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:20
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:20
Mon thru Thurs	4:25	7:20	

**Sam Worthington**  
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

**Synopsis**  
The 1981 mythological fantasy adventure Clash of the Titans is resurrected in this remake from Incredible Hulk director Louis Leterrier and veteran writer Lawrence Kasdan. The joint Legendary Films/Warner Bros. production focuses on Perseus (Sam Worthington), the mortal hero made to carry out a series of quests by the gods in order to win the hand of the imprisoned princess Andromeda.

**Why Did I Get Married Too?**

Friday	4:20	7:05	9:40
Saturday	1:05	4:20	7:05
Sunday	1:05	4:20	7:05
Mon thru Thurs	4:20	7:05	

**Janet Jackson, Tyler Perry**  
Comedy • Rated PG 13

**How To Train Your Dragon**

Friday	4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Mon thru Thurs	4:00	7:00	

**Gerald Butler, America Ferrera**  
Children, Family • Rated PG

**Hot Tub Time Machine**

Friday	4:05	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:30	4:05	7:10
Sunday	1:30	4:05	7:10
Mon thru Thurs	4:05	7:10	

**John Cusack, Robert Corddry**  
Comedy • Rated R

**Alice in Wonderland**

Friday	4:15	7:15	10:00
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Mon thru Thurs	4:15	7:15	

**Johnny Depp, Anne Hathaway**  
Fantasy • Rated PG

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## CHART TOPPERS

### Top 20 prime-time TV programs for April 12-18

Prime-time viewership numbers compiled by the Nielsen Co. for April 12-18. Listings include the week's ranking and viewership.

1. "American Idol" (Wednesday), Fox, 21.02 million.
2. "American Idol" (Tuesday), Fox, 20.64 million.
3. "Dancing With the Stars," ABC, 20.56 million.
4. "Two and a Half Men," CBS, 13.71 million.
5. "Glee," Fox, 13.66 million.
6. "Dancing With the Stars Results," ABC, 13.6 million.
7. "The Big Bang Theory," CBS, 13.39 million.
8. "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," CBS, 13.19 million.
9. "Academy of Country Music Awards," CBS, 13.02 million.
10. "Castle," ABC, 12.68 million.
11. "Criminal Minds," CBS, 12.44 million.
12. "Survivor: Heroes & Villains," CBS, 12.31 million.
13. "The Mentalist," CBS, 11.45 million.
14. "NCIS," CBS, 11.1 million.
15. "60 Minutes," CBS, 10.98 million.
16. "CSI: NY," CBS, 10.85 million.
17. "House," Fox, 10.8 million.
18. "CSI: Miami," CBS, 10.78 million.
19. "Desperate Housewives," ABC, 10.62 million.
20. "NCIS: Los Angeles," CBS, 10.43 million.



# 8 minus Kate: Another star axed from 'Dancing'

Biggie Smalls  
wrongful death  
lawsuit dismissed

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—A long-running federal wrongful death lawsuit against the city of Los Angeles over the fatal shooting of Notorious B.I.G. has been dismissed, although the move is not likely to be the last legal word in the rapper's death.

Bradley C. Gage, an attorney for the rapper's estate, said Tuesday that the dismissal could clear the way for investigators to make arrests in the B.I.G.'s 1997 death. The case was dismissed April 5 after attorneys for the estate and the city agreed that it could be refiled later.

The case included allegations



In this March 8, 1997 file photo, Notorious B.I.G., whose real name is Christopher Wallace gestures shortly before he was shot to death in Los Angeles.

that Los Angeles Police Department officers were involved in the killing of B.I.G., whose real name was Christopher Wallace. Also known as Biggie Smalls, he was 24 and an extremely popular musician when he was gunned down in March 1997 after leaving a late-night party at a Los Angeles museum.

City attorney spokesman Frank Mateljan confirmed the dismissal and said a police investigation into Wallace's shooting is ongoing. The lawsuit was first filed in 2002. A federal judge declared a mistrial in 2005 after attorneys for Wallace's family discovered the city had withheld a trove of LAPD documents. A judge ordered the city to pay more than \$1 million in sanctions.

Gage said he still doesn't have access to some records because of ongoing police and federal investigations.

He said dismissing the case gives authorities time to investigate the killing without worrying whether their agency will be found liable at a trial, Gage said. He also said it ensured that the case wouldn't place blame on someone who might ultimately be exonerated.

He predicted it could take two or three years before the case would be refiled, depending on the criminal investigation.



**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Reality TV mom Kate Gosselin has one fewer job to juggle. The author and reality star was eliminated Tuesday from "Dancing With the Stars," leaving seven couples in the ABC competition.

Gosselin failed to ignite the ballroom, landing near the bottom of the judges' leaderboard during five weeks of dancing. She came into Tuesday's results show with the week's lowest score: 15 points out of 30.

Judges' scores are combined with viewer votes to determine which celebrity is eliminated each week.

In this image released by ABC, Kate Gosselin, left, and her partner Tony Danza compete in the celebrity dance competition series, "Dancing with the Stars," Monday, April 19, 2010 in Los Angeles.

AP

## Actor Kal Penn robbed at gunpoint in D.C.

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Actor Kal Penn's former publicist confirms that the actor who played Kumar in the movie "Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle" and had a recurring role on the Fox show "House" was robbed at gunpoint in Washington, D.C.

The Indian-American actor whose given name is Kalpen

Modi is working in the White House's Office of Public Liaison. He is focusing on connecting President Barack Obama with the Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities.

Penn's former publicist Jennifer Goodwin confirmed a TMZ.com report that Penn was walking in the city at 1:20 a.m. Tuesday when a robber took

his wallet and other items.

Penn did not respond to requests for comment. The White House referred inquiries to the Metropolitan Police Department, which said it could not release information.

Eds: APNewsNow. CORRECTS that Jennifer Goodwin a former publicist, not current agent.

## Rapper Guru dies at 43 after battle with cancer

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Guru, the influential rapper known for his intellectual themes, his monotone delivery and his combination of jazz sounds with hip-hop beats, has died after battling cancer, collaborators said. He was 43.

The world has lost "one of the best MCs and hip-hop icons of all time," according to a statement from Solar, Guru's producer. It was posted on the Web site of DJ Premier, who with Guru made up the rap duo Gang Starr. The site said Guru died Monday.

E-mails from The Associated Press to Solar and his assistant were not immediately returned.

The statement also features a letter Guru wrote before his death. In it, he thanks Solar for his friendship, speaks about his son KC and his non-profit cancer organization, Each One Counts.

He also dismissed his relationship with Premier, saying, "I do not wish my ex-DJ to have anything to do with my name."

"I write this with tears in my eyes, not of sorrow but of joy for what a wonderful life I have enjoyed

and how many great people I have had the pleasure of meeting," it read.

Guru, whose real name was Keith Elam, was born near Boston and later moved to New York. His first album as a member of Gang Starr, "No More Mr. Nice Guy," was released in 1989. They released more albums as a duo, including the gold-selling "Moment of Truth" in 1998.

The group's first hit was "Words I Manifest," which samples Miles Davis and Charlie Parker's "A Night in Tunisia." Other hits include "Dwyck," "Just to Get a Rep" and "Take It Personal."

Guru moved on as a solo artist in 1993, releasing "Jazzmatazz, Vol. 1," which featured a blend of jazz melodies and hip-hop sounds. He released four volumes of the "Jazzmatazz" series. He attended Morehouse College.

Guru worked with top musicians including Herbie Hancock, Isaac Hayes, Chaka Kahn, Erykah Badu, The Roots, Common, Jamiroquai, Macy Gray and Damian Marley.



In this undated CD cover image released by EMI records, Guru's "Jazzmatazz Streetsoul," release is shown.

AP

## Author Steel's ex-aide sentenced for embezzlement

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)**—Danielle Steel's former assistant has been sentenced to nearly three years in prison for embezzling almost \$1 million from the romance novelist.

Kristy Watts worked for 15 years and earned an annual salary of \$200,000 for part-time work that included

handling Steel's payroll and accounting.

The 48-year-old pleaded guilty last year to depositing numerous checks made out to "cash" in her own bank account, using the author's credit card rewards points and paying herself more than her salary.

U.S. District Court Judge

Vaughn Walker on Tuesday sentenced Watts to two years and nine months in prison.

She has paid the author \$969,752 to settle a lawsuit by selling her house and furnishings. Watts is married to a San Francisco Police Department officer and has a 6-year-old daughter.

## Cleaning their plates could be hazardous to kids' health

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** "Milwaukee Grandma" (Feb. 16) was "appalled to see the number of adults who forced their children to eat" in restaurants. "Grandma" is absolutely right. Children will eat when hungry and stop when they have had enough. The old saying "Clean your plate" is contributing to the obesity epidemic. Children are born with the ability to self-regulate their food intake. Notice how many babies move their heads away from the bottle or breast when they are full.



*Dear Abby*

Eating out is expensive, and restaurants tend to serve portions that are larger than necessary for a child's small stomach. Instead of forcing the child to finish, parents should take half the dinner home for a later time.

The obesity epidemic is based on many factors, including excessive meal portions, decreased physical activity, abundance of junk food, and lack of available and affordable healthy foods in some areas of the country—to name a few.

Parents can make a difference by involving their children in the shopping for and preparation of meals, eating as a family with the TV shut off and making activity fun and a part of the everyday routine.

DIETITIAN IN GARDNER, MASS.

**DEAR DIETITIAN:** Thank you for enlightening me regarding the obesity epidemic. A number of other readers weighed in on the topic with interesting insights. Read on:

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I was raised by parents who forced me to "clean my plate or else." They were the ones who fixed my plate or decided what to order us kids in restaurants. Eating became a negative experience as I was growing up.

It wasn't until I got counseling prior to my gastric bypass surgery that I learned to stop eating when I was full instead of feeling guilty unless I cleaned my plate. In counseling, I was told it was OK to leave food on my plate—but by then I weighed 400 pounds.

It's better to teach children to eat at mealtime, be responsible when it comes to snacking and "listen to your body" when it says, "I'm full."

HAPPY WITH MY WEIGHT NOW

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** As a family and consumer sciences educator, one of the courses I teach in child development is "division of responsibility." This means it's the parents' responsibility to offer nutritious food choices to their children, and the children's responsibility to decide how much to eat.

By forcing children to "clean their plate," we are overriding the natural programming they are born with that tells them when they are full and to stop eating. When we teach children to eat past natural satiation, obesity is the natural consequence.

LAURA IN MOSCOW, IDAHO

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** We have one child with severe food allergies and two others who have ADD and emotional issues. Their medications decrease their appetites, which makes it difficult for them to gain weight and grow. We may be the parents "Milwaukee Grandma" is referring to as we urge our children to eat more.

There are many children out there with medical challenges that make getting enough nutrients difficult. Other illnesses require some kids to consume a certain number of calories. For some, being in the "Clean Plate Club" is critical to their health and well-being.

MOM TO 4 SKINNY KIDS

*Dear Abby* is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

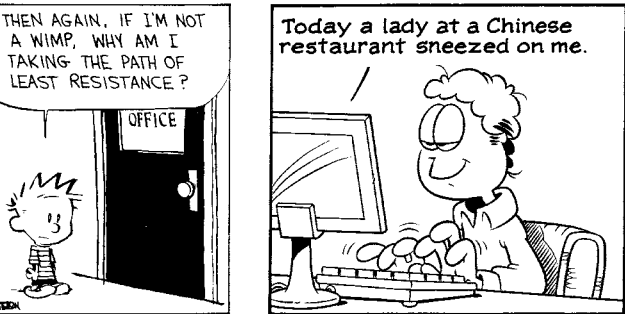


Pastimes

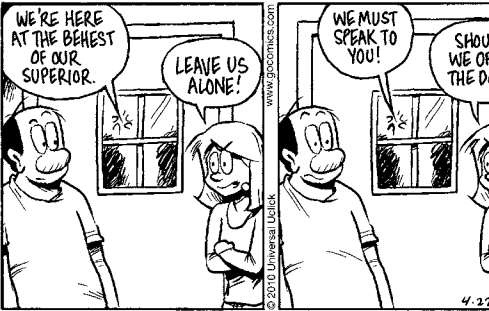
Calvin and Hobbes



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The Duplex



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Tear in two

5 Mini-whopper

8 "Yeah, right!"

12 Addict

13 Guitar's cousin

14 Cartoonist

15 Capri or Wight

16 Born

17 Oklahoma city

18 "Simpsons" bully

20 Palm leaves

22 Firmament

23 Actor Ron

24 Needing liniment

27 Pal

32 Letter before sigma

33 Blood typing letters

34 Diving bird

35 Alternative to Szechwan

38 Unit of force

39 Conger, for one

40 Lamb's mama

42 Between — and

45 Squealed, puppy-style

49 Castro's place

50 Once around

52 Met melody

53 Act the robot

54 Tackle the slopes

55 Standard

56 Links

57 Feedbag tidbit

58 Keats output

19 Fine

21 Dem.'s rival

24 Branch

25 Dance syllable

26 Hive dweller

28 Sapporo sash

29 Venture that drains one's finances

30 Scoot

31 — out a living

36 Holds up

37 Every iota

38 Historic White House middle name

41 First word of the Constitution

42 Highlander

43 Rubik's baffler

44 As well

46 Poke

47 Green land

48 TVA structures

51 Alias (Abbr.)

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 4-22

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18					19			20	21			
			22						23			
24	25	26			27	28	29				30	31
32					33					34		
35			36	37					38			
			39				40	41				
42	43				44		45			46	47	48
49					50	51			52			
53					54				55			
56					57				58			

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Francis Capra, 27; Eric Mabius, 39; Sherri Shepherd, 43; Jack Nicholson, 73

Happy Birthday: Both personally and professionally, the sky is the limit this year. All you have to do is take advantage of each situation as it arises. Don't let your emotions or your stubbornness stand in the way. Weigh the pros and cons of every situation to ensure you don't miss out on interesting changes with the potential to parlay into much more. Your numbers are 2, 12, 18, 22, 29, 33, 39

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You deserve a break, so enjoy friends or do something that will enhance your body, mind or spirit. A little pampering now will go a long way toward easing your stress. Network or get together with people who stimulate your mind.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will have to watch what you spend. Someone close to you may be pushing you to be less frugal, so it's vital you say no in a diplomatic but firm manner. Suggest entertaining but inexpensive alternatives.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Do your own work in order to avoid criticism. A serious approach to your financial situation will help you avoid a costly mistake—not to mention an unnecessary purchase.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Taking on too much will result in doing a poor job. Before you put a scar on your reputation, rethink your strategy. Love is in the stars and, with a little effort, you can enhance your relationship or be brought in contact with someone very special.

ship or be brought in contact with someone very special.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): It will be difficult not to take personally situations that develop. Problems with a colleague, peer, friend or relative will lead to emotional upset. Do not show your feelings or you will jeopardize your position.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The more you do to keep everyone on the same page as you, the better your chance of completing your plans. A trip will pay off. A love relationship can be magnified with a few simple gestures to confirm your feelings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Tuck your money in a safe place. You will be tempted to spend on friends, entertainment or donating to a questionable cause. Consider a venture that utilizes a skill or talent in order to bring in extra cash.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You are likely to take things the wrong way, especially when dealing with people at work. Jealousy will be the problem and must be avoided. Concentrate on what you need to get done and ignore what everyone around you is doing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Greater involvement with different cultural beliefs, traditions or entertainment will entice you. Someone you are close to may be threatened by your recent choices. Avoid being too forthcoming with your plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make changes at home that reflect your state of mind and your philosophy in life. You

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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can stabilize your position with open and honest communication. Love is on the rise, so enhance your relationship by highlighting your common interests.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you don't put in the effort, you won't get the return. This applies to whatever you do or pursue. Be willing to go the distance and listen to experience and advice being offered. Avoid a negative response.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Think big when it comes to your professional goals. There are opportunities but not if you are chasing an impossible dream. Know your strengths and use what you've got to your advantage. An important partnership will take on a serious connotation.

Birthday Baby: You have class and integrity and fight for what you feel is important. You are emotional and brave. You stick to tradition and are competitive.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

7			2			4		9
	8						7	
2					1			
			2	7	3			4
1			6		8	5		
			1					2
	5						8	
9		1		4				6

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

4	1	2	6	3	7	9	5	8
8	7	6	9	5	1	4	3	2
9	5	3	8	4	2	1	7	6
7	2	9	3	8	4	5	6	1
3	6	8	1	7	5	2	9	4
5	4	1	2	9	6	7	8	3
1	8	5	7	2	3	6	4	9
2	9	4	5	6	8	3	1	7
6	3	7	4	1	9	8	2	5

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/22

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HIGH PRESSURE COOLING FILTERS Solution: 7 letters

N	H	E	A	T	N	E	M	N	O	R	I	V	N	E
U	F	S	M	E	T	S	Y	S	R	E	Y	A	L	C
P	A	R	T	I	C	U	L	A	T	E	A	E	N	O
S	A	U	S	R	O	S	S	E	R	P	M	O	C	N
D	E	R	T	P	S	S	I	Z	E	E	T	F	O	T
I	L	I	T	O	R	R	U	H	N	T	O	I	M	A
L	B	A	G	I	M	E	A	T	O	A	T	B	B	I
O	A	R	I	R	C	O	S	C	M	A	E	E	U	N
S	S	T	E	R	E	L	T	S	C	C	H	R	S	M
E	O	S	C	W	T	L	E	I	U	A	T	G	T	E
N	P	E	H	O	S	L	S	V	R	A	L	I	N	
I	S	N	A	R	P	U	A	V	E	E	A	O	T	
G	I	A	R	E	P	A	D	I	V	E	N	R	S	N
N	D	L	G	A	P	I	N	G	B	S	A	C		
E	X	P	E	N	S	E	E	Y	T	I	L	A	U	Q

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Yesterday's Answer: Medals

SALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle difficulty matches what you're come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, this book is on sale for just \$4 each (U.S. funds only, payable to Universal Uclick). Includes \$5 postage for the first book order. \$1 plus for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480.



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• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

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Saturday Issue:

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### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

Eton 2  
Harrow 2

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# Lakers beat Thunder to take 2-0 series lead



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kobe Bryant scored 39 points, carrying the Lakers in the fourth quarter when they lost the lead three times, and Los Angeles beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 95-92 on Tuesday night to take a 2-0 lead in a Western Conference playoff series.

Bryant was 13 of 15 from the free throw line, but just 12 of 28 from the floor in front of his dad Joe, who sat next to the Lakers' bench.

Kevin Durant led the Thunder with 32 points and Russell Westbrook added 19, making all eight of his free throws.

Pau Gasol had 25 points and 12 rebounds, and Andrew Bynum had six points and 10 boards for the defending champions, who failed to sustain their strong start for the second straight game.

Game 3 is Thursday in Oklahoma City. The Lakers are 39-1 all-time when winning first two games of a best-of-seven series.

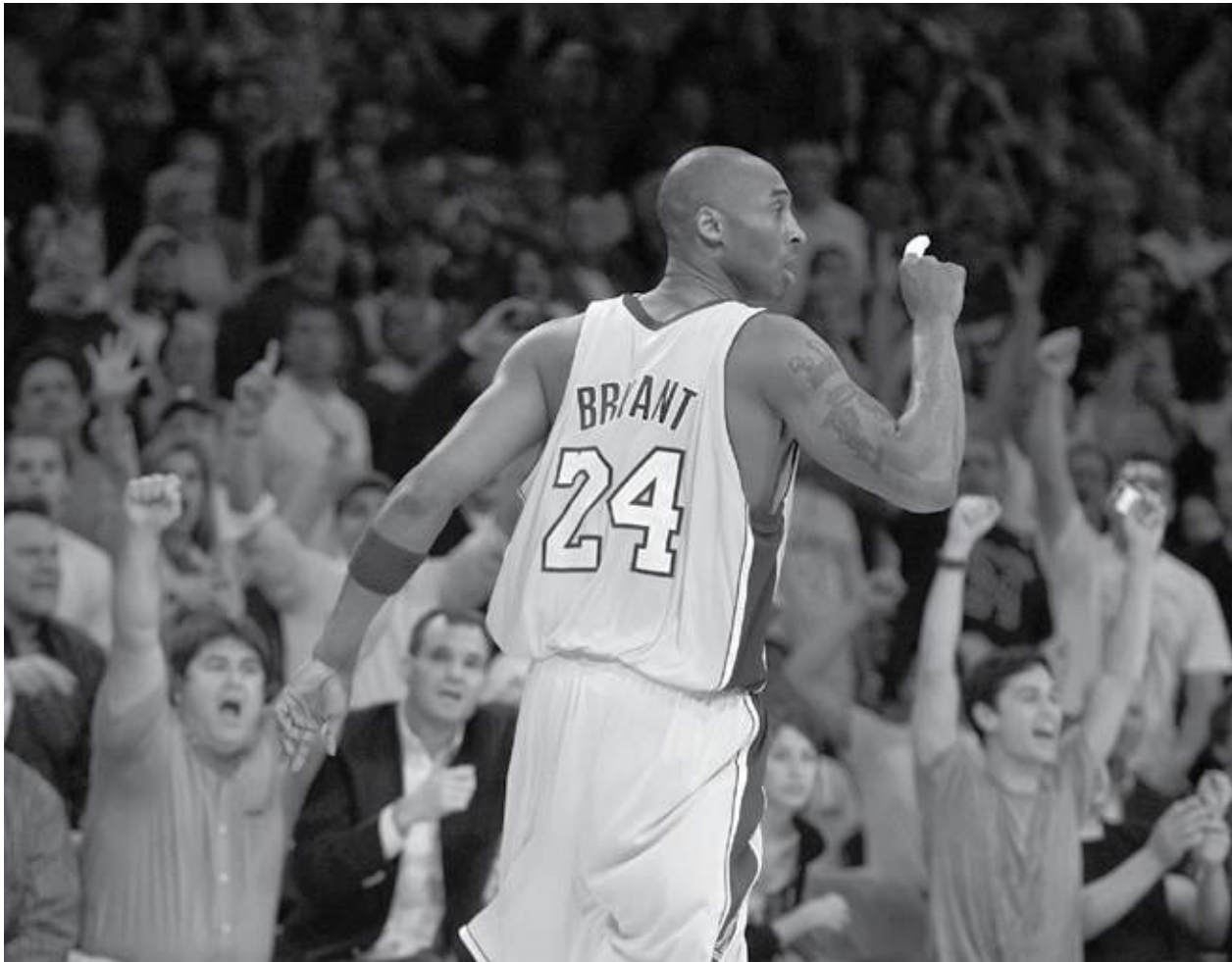
The Thunder's defense kept them in the game, with 17 blocked shots.

Bryant scored 15 points in the fourth, but sent the crowd into an anguished groan when he missed the first of two free throws with 15 seconds left. He made the second to keep Los Angeles ahead 94-92.

Durant missed a 3-pointer and Gasol got fouled, but he also missed the first with 7 seconds left, keeping the Thunder's hopes alive. Gasol hit the second, and then Jeff Green, who had 12 points, missed a 3-pointer as time expired.

The Thunder led three times, but Bryant twice brought the Lakers back, the last time tying the game at 88 on two free throws. The game was decided at the line over the final 2:20, with the Thunder forced to foul while missing from the perimeter.

The Lakers regained the edge in the



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant points to his teammate after making a basket against the Oklahoma City Thunder during the second half of Game 2 in a first-round NBA basketball playoff series in Los Angeles, Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

third quarter, although not by much. Their largest lead was six and it dwindled to 73-69 going into the final 12 minutes. Durant was called for goaltending on the Lakers' last basket or the Thunder would've trailed by two.

With every starter except Bynum on the bench to start the second quarter, the Lakers extended their lead to 37-26. But the Thunder outscored them 21-8 to lead 47-45 going into halftime, despite Westbrook picking up his third foul midway through the period.

Durant had nine points in the spurt, with he and Green hitting back-to-back 3-pointers. The Lakers were limited to 33 percent shooting, with Bryant going 2 of 7. The Thunder had nine blocked shots in the half.

Bryant's jumper hit the rim and went in to tie the game at 45 before Eric Maynor beat the shot clock on a fade-away jumper, giving Oklahoma City its first halftime lead of the series.

The Lakers owned the first quarter in a repeat of their strong start to Game

1. They outscored the Thunder 26-18, with Bryant scoring eight of their first 13 points. The Thunder shot 29 percent from the floor.

## Celtics 106, Heat 77

In Boston, the hosts didn't miss Kevin Garnett at all, as Glen Davis filled in to lead them over Miami for a 2-0 series lead.

With Garnett serving a one-game suspension, Davis started and had 23 points and eight rebounds, going aggressively to the basket to grab missed

shots and draw fouls.

The Heat led 29-25 but the Celtics used a 44-8 surge over the next 16 minutes to go ahead 69-37, capped by one of Ray Allen's five 3-pointers in the third quarter. Allen led the Celtics with 25 points, while Dwyane Wade scored 29 for the Heat.

Game 3 is Friday in Miami.

## Hawks 96, Bucks 86

In Atlanta, Joe Johnson took control in the fourth quarter to finish off a 27-point effort as Atlanta ran away from outmanned Milwaukee.

Josh Smith finished one assist shy of a triple-double for the Hawks, who will head to Milwaukee on Saturday with a 2-0 series lead. It's the first time they've won the first two in a best-of-seven series since 1970.

Al Horford scored 20 points for Atlanta, snatching down 10 rebounds and blocking three shots.

John Salmons scored 21 points for the Bucks, and Ersan Ilyasova came off the bench for 13 points and 15 rebounds.

## Suns 119, Trail Blazers 90

In Phoenix, the hosts rediscovered its high-energy style to beat Portland and square the series 1-1.

Jason Richardson scored 29 points and Grant Hill made 10-of-11 shots for 20 for the Suns.

Unlike Game 1, Steve Nash pushed the Suns to their preferred tempo from the start and finished with 13 points and 16 assists. Amare Stoudemire scored 18. None of the Suns' starters played in the fourth quarter.

Martell Webster led the Blazers with 16 points. Andre Miller was limited to 12. Nicolas Batum also scored 12 before leaving with a right shoulder strain at the end of the third quarter.

The series shifts to Portland for Game 3 on Thursday.

## Howard wins consecutive defensive player awards

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Dwight Howard turned to Orlando Magic general manager Otis Smith, somewhat unsure how to answer the question.

Already the youngest player ever with two NBA defensive player of the year awards, just how many could he eventually win?

Smith raised his hands, all 10 fingers dangling. Howard laughed, smiled and nodded his head.

"That's not enough?" Smith asked. "I don't have enough hands."

At this rate, it might not be so far fetched.

The Magic's All-Star center won the award for the second straight year Tuesday after becoming the only player to lead the league in blocks and rebounds in the same season twice—let alone two years in a row.

Now 24, perhaps the next step for Howard is improving his offensive game enough to sway voters that he should win the Most Valuable Player award. Cleveland's LeBron James seems certain to take that honor again, and Howard said voters should factor in defense more.

"I think most people look at Most Valuable Player as somebody who scores a lot of points, which is great. I believe that defense wins championships, wins games," said Howard, who averaged 18.3 points per game. "I've always thought about it like that, and

I'll continue to think about it like that."

That mentality helped him runaway with the defensive award again.

Howard received 576 total points, including 110 first-place votes from a panel of 122 writers and broadcasters. Atlanta's Josh Smith was second with 136 points, and Charlotte's Gerald Wallace finished third with 113 points.

Howard averaged 13.2 rebounds and 2.8 blocks per game this season, powering the Magic (59-23) to the league's second-best record behind Cleveland. Only Bill Walton, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Hakeem Olajuwon and Ben Wallace each led the NBA in those categories once in the same season.

"I think it speaks very highly of him, at 24, he's winning the award twice," Van Gundy said.

Howard has long preached defense first.

He has studied Bill Russell for years, reading books and newspaper articles on the player many consider the greatest defensive center in history. Howard is also good friends with defensive standout Dikembe Mutombo and assistant coach Patrick Ewing.

The former centers challenged him from the beginning to be a great defender above all else.

"Not all good players in this league, and not all great players in this league accept challenges, and that's probably the biggest growth that you see in him

is that he accepts the challenge that's put in front of him," Smith said. "The challenge that's put in front of him is being the best defensive player night in, and night out."

So far, so good.

The man they call Superman swooped in to effect more shots than he blocked this season, changing games with his presence in the paint. Howard has been a matchup nightmare against almost every team, the main reason the Magic kept opposing shooters to an NBA-low 43.8 percent shooting.

The No. 1 overall draft pick out of high school in 2004, Howard has quickly become one of the most dominant centers. His chiseled, 6-foot-11, 275-pound physique makes him one of the most intimidating players, and his incredible vertical leap is even rarer for a big man.

Certainly not a player easy to get around.

"I was always trying to dunk on Dwight," teammate Vince Carter said of his time before he came to the Magic this season. "If you ask him, he'll say, no, but it happened a few times. But whatever, we won't talk about that."

"You always have to know he's going to be there. He has great instinct. It's always on your mind. You know if you beat your man, you still have to get around Dwight."

## Brown: Magic not taking Bobcats 'seriously' enough

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Charlotte Bobcats coach Larry Brown assembled his team for practice Tuesday, delivering a fiery message to his players.

"Yesterday, Orlando took the day off," Brown said. "That's how ... seriously they're taking us."

Brown and the Bobcats are looking for the franchise's first playoff victory, and he's making sure they're willing to work for it.

While the Magic didn't officially practice Monday, most players worked out at the team's facility. Charlotte had organized team practices during both off days, and it's searching for any means of motivation to even the series when it resumes for Game 2 on Wednesday night.

Charlotte swingman Gerald Wallace even went out of his way for the second straight day to make sure it was known his team is not intimidated by the Magic's Dwight Howard, who blocked nine shots in the opener and won the NBA's defensive player of the year award for the second consecutive year.

"Dwight's going to be Dwight," Wallace said. "We can't treat him like he's Michael Jordan."

The Magic aren't expecting so much. But they do want more from their star duo.

The Howard-Vince Carter pairing fell flat in its playoff debut offensively. Howard had five points and seven rebounds; Carter had 12 points on 4-for-19 shooting.

Both attributed the poor showing to being too hyped up.

Howard was texting and calling Carter in the middle of the night before the opener, admitting later he was overanxious. The two have since talked privately about controlling their emotions, knowing they'll need to produce more if the Magic want to compete for a title.

No more late-night chats before games, either.

"I try to sleep some times," Carter said, laughing.

"I think our texting back and forth kind of got us a little excited, just because we want it so bad and we want to do it for our team," Carter added. "It's like I told him, 'I'm not going to let you stand out there by yourself. And we're going to all do it with you, and we're going to all do it together.' I think that confidence that your team is behind you can get you excited."

"I'll tell you, it can get me excited." The concern for the Bobcats: They still lost despite shutting down the Magic's powerful one-two punch.



# Yankees extend streak, beat A's



**OAKLAND, California**  
(AP)—Alex Rodriguez hit a

three-run homer to lift the New York Yankees to a 7-3 win over the Oakland Athletics on Tuesday, notching a fifth straight American League win.

Yankees starter Javier Vazquez (1-2) finally showed the form that made him a 15-game winner last season. He entered the game with a 9.82 ERA, but allowed only three runs in 5-1/3 innings, striking out six.

Nick Swisher hit a two-run single against his former team and Jorge Posada also singled home a run in New York's three-run first inning against Gio Gonzalez (1-1).

Plate umpire Ed Rapuano took a foul ball to the chin. He was taken by ambulance to a nearby hospital, but the A's said he was alert when he left the ballpark.

## Twins 5, Indians 1

In Minneapolis, Kevin Slowey handcuffed Cleveland's struggling offense for eight innings, steering Minnesota to victory.

Slowey (2-1) gave up one run with nine strikeouts and no walks.

Cleveland got just four innings from starter Justin Masterson (1-1) who gave up five runs, walked five, hit one batter and needed 96 pitches to get through those four innings.

## White Sox 4, Rays 1

In Chicago, the hosts ended Tampa Bay's seven-game winning streak.

John Danks (2-0) pitched eight strong innings, allowing just one run with nine strikeouts.

Paul Konerko hit a solo homer and drove in two runs for the White Sox, who snapped a four-game losing streak.

Tampa Bay left-hander David Price (2-1) allowed three runs in five innings.

## Angels 6, Tigers 5

In Anaheim, Los Angeles overcame another poor bullpen performance to edge Detroit.

Howie Kendrick drove in three runs and Hideki Matsui added a two-run double for the Angels, who won their fifth straight to climb over the .500 mark for the first time since opening day.

Los Angeles starter Scott Kazmir (1-1) was charged with two runs over 5 2-3 innings and struck out seven without issuing a walk.

Tigers starter Rick Porcello (1-1) gave up six runs in 4 1-3 innings. He threw two wild pitches and hit a batter with a pitch.

## Blue Jays 4, Royals 3

In Toronto, Vernon Wells homered and John Buck drove in the go-ahead run with an infield single as Toronto beat Tampa Bay.

Wells went 3 for 4 with two doubles and scored twice, raising his average to .364.

Shawn Camp (1-0) pitched 1 2-3 innings of relief for the victory as Toronto won its ninth consecutive home series against the Royals.

Kansas City's Kyle Davies (1-1) took the loss.

## Red Sox 7, Rangers 6

In Boston, Darnell McDonald, called

up from the minors earlier in the day, hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning to tie the game and won it with an RBI single in the ninth to lift struggling Boston over Texas.

The Red Sox snapped a five-game losing streak despite allowing the Rangers to steal a club record nine bases. Texas has dropped five straight.

Kevin Youkilis opened the ninth with an infield hit off the body of Rangers pitcher Frank Francisco (2-3). He advanced on a passed ball and was sacrificed to third. Mike Lowell was intentionally walked and Adrian Beltre popped to first. Jason Varitek then walked on four pitches before McDonald lifted a fly ball just over the leap of a fielder.

Nelson Cruz and Elvis Andrus each had three stolen bases as the Rangers

homer with two outs in the ninth inning and Nate McLouth hit another home run leading off the tenth to give the Atlanta Braves a comeback win over the Philadelphia Phillies.

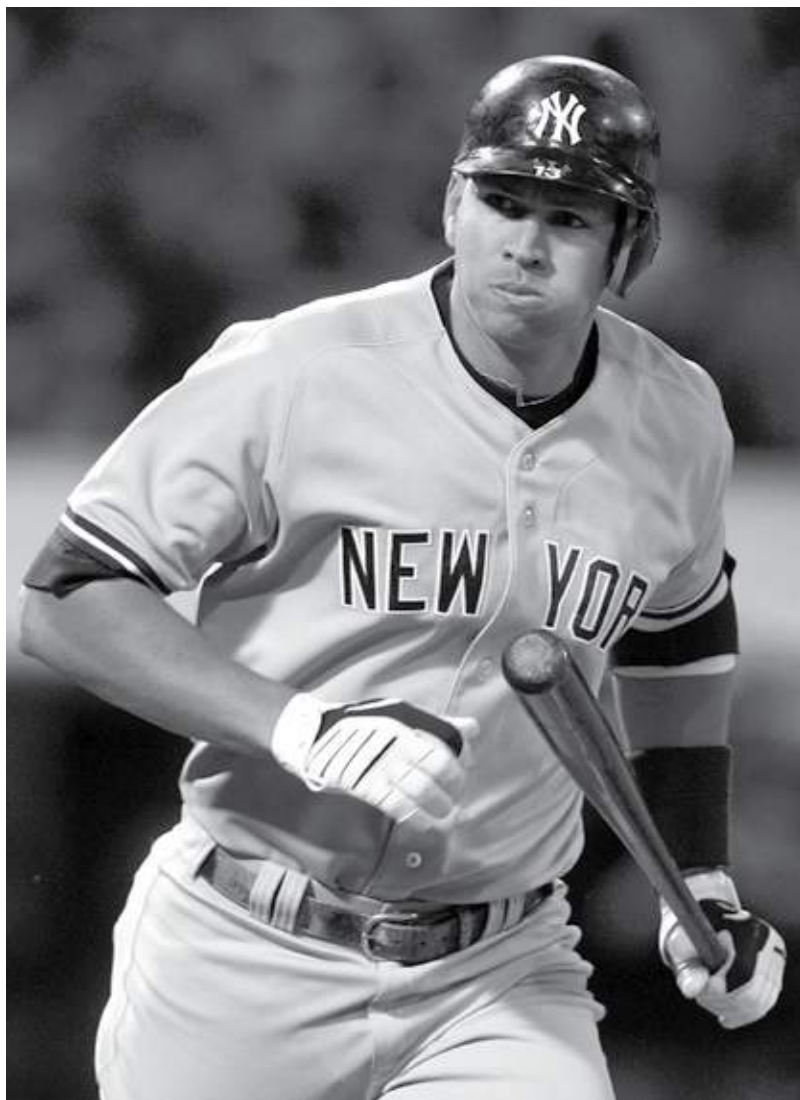
Kyle Kendrick pitched eight scoreless innings for Philadelphia, but closer Ryan Madson blew a 3-0 lead in the ninth by giving up consecutive homers to Troy Glaus and Heyward.

McLouth's homer into the right-field seats came off Jose Contreras (0-1).

## Padres 1, Giants 0

In San Diego, the hosts beat San Francisco despite getting only one hit.

Mat Latos (1-1) prevailed in a pitching duel with Jonathan Sanchez (1-1), both going seven innings and retiring their final 12 batters. Sanchez



New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez carries his bat after hitting a three-run home run off Oakland Athletics' Craig Breslow during the fifth inning of a baseball game Tuesday, April 20, 2010, in Oakland, Calif.

opened a 6-1 lead after five innings.

Red Sox closer Jonathan Papelbon (1-1) pitched a hitless ninth for the win.

## Mariners 3, Orioles 1

In Seattle, Jason Vargas extended a stretch of strong starting pitching by Seattle in the victory over struggling Baltimore.

Vargas (2-1) allowed just three hits in seven innings against the anaemic Orioles.

Baltimore is 2-13 overall and had just two runs in two games here.

Orioles starter David Hernandez (0-3) lost his ninth consecutive decision. He allowed seven hits in 6 1-3 innings and left after consecutive doubles by Seattle's No. 8 and 9 hitters made it 3-1.

The Mariners have won six of seven.

## Braves 4, Phillies 3

In Atlanta, Jason Heyward hit a tying

## Rockies 10, Nationals 4

In Washington, Jorge De La Rosa had a three-run double in an eight-run third inning that set up Colorado's win over Washington.

The game was played hours after the Rockies learned of the death of their team president Keli McGregor at age 48.

The grief-stricken Rockies had their biggest inning of the year—beginning it with five straight hits. De La Rosa had his first three RBI game and was the winning pitcher despite allowing four runs in five-plus innings.

## Brewers 8, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Dave Bush pitched seven shutout innings to steer Milwaukee past Pittsburgh.

Bush (1-0) allowed three hits and four walks for the Brewers, who took a big early lead for the second consecutive game.

Pirates starter Charlie Morton (0-3) allowed six runs. He has give up 20 runs and 23 hits in 10 1-3 innings this season.

Pittsburgh had a three-game winning streak snapped.

## Reds 11, Dodgers 9

In Cincinnati, the hosts recovered from blowing a six-run lead and beat Los Angeles to snap a run of five straight losses.

Matt Kemp hit a three-run homer in the eighth to tie the game. Dodgers pitcher Ramon Troncoso walked two before Paul Janish singled with two out for the tiebreaking run.

Reds pitcher Mike Lincoln (1-0) got the final out that ended the Dodgers' comeback in the eighth.

Cincinnati has a penchant for dramatic wins. All six of their victories have come off rallies in their final at-bat.

## Astros 7, Marlins 5

In Houston, Jason Michaels hit a two-run homer in the eighth after Kaz Matsui's sacrifice bunt scored the go-ahead run for Houston in the win over Florida.

Houston's Lance Berkman made his season debut, getting a double and driving in two runs as the Astros got their first home win this season after dropping their first six.

Hunter Pence doubled off Tim Wood (0-1) in the eighth inning before a single by Pedro Feliz. Matsui sacrificed Pence home to make it 5-4 before Michaels' shot.

## Mets 4, Cubs 0

In New York, Mike Pelfrey followed up his save Saturday with seven scoreless innings Tuesday, guiding New York past Chicago.

The Mets went ahead with two runs in the second after Carlos Zambrano (1-2) had walked opposing pitcher Pelfrey with two outs. Pinch-hitter Fernando Tatis had a two-run homer in the eighth inning for New York.

Pelfrey (3-0), who didn't allow a hit until a single in the fifth, extended his scoreless streak to 19 innings, matching a career high.

Jose Reyes returned to the Mets starting lineup and had a two-run triple among his four hits.

The punchless Cubs have lost four in a row, scoring just six runs during the skid.

# NFL opener: Super Bowl champs Saints vs. Vikings



**NEW YORK (AP)**—The Super Bowl champion New Orleans Saints will get an early test when they host the Minnesota Vikings in the NFL season opener, a rematch of their thrilling NFC championship game decided in overtime.

That nationally televised game will be Thursday night, Sept. 9. New Orleans won its first conference title by beating Minnesota 31-28 on a 40-yard field goal by Garrett Hartley 4:45 into overtime. The Saints went on to defeat the Indianapolis Colts 31-17 in the Super Bowl.

"I can't imagine it being anymore charged than the last time we were down there," Vikings coach Brad Childress said Tuesday night. "That's always a great, hostile environment to play in."

The Saints also will play at Dallas on Thanksgiving Day; the Cowboys handed New Orleans its first defeat after 13 victories last season.

In an effort to make late-season games more meaningful and avoid teams sitting out regulars once they have clinched a playoff berth, the NFL set up all intradivision matchups for the final Sunday, Jan. 2. That adjustment caused much of the delay in the release of the schedule this year; it normally is announced in early April or before.

Indianapolis begins its 2010 schedule at Houston on the first full day of the season, Sept. 12. Another highlight that Sunday will be the regular-season debut of the new Meadowlands Stadium, with Carolina at the New York Giants. The next night, Baltimore is at the New York Jets in the same venue, followed by San Diego at Kansas City in what has become a traditional Monday night doubleheader to kick off the season.

Two games will be played abroad: Denver vs. San Francisco in London on Oct. 31, and Chicago vs. Buffalo in Toronto the following Sunday, Nov. 7.

"Our Toronto fans will have the opportunity to see us play against one of the most storied franchises in NFL history," Bills owner Ralph Wilson said, "with Brian Urlacher anchoring the Bears' defense and Jay Cutler, one of the most exciting quarterbacks in the game today, leading their offense."

The Jets also will host the Thanksgiving night game, against Cincinnati. Also on that holiday, New England visits Detroit.

Donovan McNabb's first game as Redskins quarterback will be against a familiar foe: Dallas. The Cowboys visit Washington in the Sunday night game on Sept. 12.

McNabb goes back to Philadelphia on Sunday, Oct. 4, the fourth week of the schedule and the first week with byes.

"It's a competitive schedule to measure ourselves against some of the top teams in the National Football League," Redskins coach Mike Shanahan said. "It is flattering to open the season on national television on Sunday night and to also play three prime-time games and five national broadcasts in our first nine games."

Other featured matchups include the Giants at the Colts as the prime-time Sunday game in Week 2, the second meeting between Peyton Manning and younger brother Eli; the almost-annual Colts-Patriots game, in Week 11 at New England; Dallas at Arizona on Christmas night, a Saturday; and the double dose of Brett Favre vs. the Packers, if the 40-year-old quarterback returns to Minnesota: Sunday night, Oct. 24 at Lambeau, and Nov. 21 at Minneapolis.



# Grillin' splits games in Navy Hill caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Grillin' had back-to-back games and split its matches in the 2010 Navy Hill

Friendship Basketball League Tuesday at the Garapan Basketball Court. Grillin' first played the continuation of its game against Sparks and lost a closely fought match, 58-62, before recovering with a 64-41 trash-

ing of Contractor. The Sparks resumed their rain-delayed game with a 38-29 third quarter lead and went on to keep the driver's seat and eventually won the match. The victory was the Sparks seventh in eight

games, putting them in second place in the team standings in Division B behind the leading DL Cooking Gas (9-1). Sajit Hossain paced Sparks with 14 points, while Eugene Manglona added 12.

Grillin's absorbed its forth loss after the four-point defeat to the Sparks, but got their fifth win in the same evening, following a 23-point victory over cellar dweller MTV Contructor (0-8).

Lerio Pagarao top-scored for Grillin', hitting 24 markers, while Dexter Tenorio led Contractor's losing cause, making 14.

Both teams struggled at the start of the game with Grillin' leading by only two, 11-9. Contractor hung in there in the second quarter, trailing by only four at the break, 23-27, before Pagarao and Roy Fernandez teamed up in a third-quarter breakaway.

Pagarao added eight more points in the third canto, while Fernandez scored six straight

points to give Grillin' a 48-33 lead, entering the final frame. Pagarao was not done yet and started the fourth period with eight straight points en route to an easy win.

**Mix Blood 90, GEC 85**  
In another Division B game, Mix Blood drew 40 points from Joe Ada to pull off a 90-85 victory over GEC Pawnshop.

With the win, Mix Blood improved to an even 4-4 slate, while GEC dropped to a 4-5 record.

Ada scored 14 of his total points in the fourth quarter, helping Mix Blood foil GEC's repeated comeback bids. Ada tallied seven straight markers at one point in the fourth quarter and hit clutch free throw to seal the win.

## DON'T

From Page 28

estimated by former World Cup winners Uruguay and France, and perennial qualifier Mexico, which are bracketed with the host in Group A.

The Rainbow Nation can't be count out judging from its gallant stand in the 2009 FIFA Confederations Cup, a prelude to the big thing this June. South Africa gave both the top-ranked Spain and heavily touted Brazil a run for their money. The Bafana Bafana lost to Brazil in the semis, 0-1, and to Spain in the battle for third, 2-3. Brazil eventually won the tournament, beating the United States, 3-2.

Playing on home soil is also something that may work on South Africa's advantage. The Soccer City in Johannesburg is where South Africa stunned Tunisia, 2-0 and won the CAF (Confederation of African Football) Africa Cup of Nations, 16 years ago.

How about the players and the coach?

South Africa has midfield maestro Steven Pienaar and wingbacks Siboniso Gaxa and Tsepho Masilela. Pienaar is an all-around player, playing a cru-

cial role in South Africa's semis stint in the Confed Cup, while Gaxa and Masilela are the ever-dependable backups.

As for the coach, the host has Carlos Alberto Parreira, who is no stranger to center stage in football, having led Brazil to the 1994 FIFA World Cup in the U.S. The 19th edition of the FIFA World Cup will be Parreira's sixth coaching stint in the quadrennial event.

South Africa will be on its third World Cup appearance and in its first two, it failed to make it beyond the group stages. This year, Parreira believes they will break the curse.

"A lot of people will say we won't make it, but we don't have to listen to everyone who has an opinion. The most important thing is to concentrate on our priority, and that is to go beyond the group stages. We believe we can do this," Parreira was quoted as saying in the FIFA website.

## World-class players from Côte d'Ivoire

Côte d'Ivoire is also one of the teams from CAF that is expected to make an impact in this year's World Cup based on its record in the qualifiers and its stock of world-class players.

Les Elephants were undefeated in five games and have the Chelsea pair of Didier Drogba and Salomon Kalou on their roster, teaming up with Sevilla's Didier Zokora, Barcelona's Yaya Toure, Marseille's Bakary Kone, England-based duo of Emmanuel Eboué and Kolo Toure, and Stuttgart's Arthur.

Like South Africa, Côte d'Ivoire also has an experience coach in Sven-Goran Eriksson, who led England to the quarterfinals in 2002 and 2006 and coached successful teams in Portugal, England, and Italy.

However, Eriksson and his bunch of pro stars are in a "Group of Death" in South Africa, having been drawn with powerhouse teams of Brazil and Portugal, and North Korea.

Les Elephants were in the same strong group in 2006 in Germany, when they faced and lost to Argentina and the Netherlands before they won over Serbia and Montenegro, 3-2.

## Rich record from Cameroon

Cameroon will lean on its wealthy record in World Cup once it sets foot in South Africa.

The top-ranked African nation in the FIFA rankings have played in 17 FIFA World Cup

matches, the most of any national team from Africa. The Lions hold one of the biggest upsets in the history of World Cup when they beat the then defending champion Argentina, 1-0, in the 1990 FIFA World Cup in Italy.

Cameroon made it to the World Cup five times, a record no African nation has yet to surpass or equal. The Lions are also the best-placed African team in the World Cup, advancing to the quarterfinals in Italy, 20 years ago. Senegal duplicated that feat in 2002 when South Korea and Japan co-hosted the World Cup.

Besides its rich record, Cameroon, which had a 4-2-0 win-draw-loss mark in the qualifier, is also boasting a balance mixed of young and experienced strikers.

Leading the team is three-time African player of the year Samuel Eto'o, who scored 11 goals in the qualifiers. Joining him are young guns Pierre Webó, Jean Makoun, Stephane Mbia and Alexandre Song, veterans Geremi Njitap, Rigobert Song, and goalkeeper Idriss Carlos Kameni.

Coaching the Lions is Frenchman Paul Le Guen, who is known for his professionalism with big clubs Lyon, Rangers, and Paris St. Germain.

## JERICHO

From Page 28

ing out in a fight in their previous game. Cruz scored 18 markers in the series opener, canning crucial free throws that lifted the Thunder to an 86-82 win against the Sea Lions. Unfortunately, RTU lost the remaining two games in the final series.

"It's good to see Jericho back and fit to play the game. When he rejoined the training pool, he quickly fit in. It goes to show, he is not fooling around in Manila and continues to improve his craft. We love to see him back on the team," CNMI Men's Nationals coach Rufino Aguon said.

Aguon had Cruz on his roster when the CNMI played in the FIBA Oceania Youth Tourna-

ment in Guam in 2008. Last year, Cruz was back for a tour of duty for the Commonwealth, leading the team's campaign for the 2008 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament, which Saipan hosted.

In last year's FIBA tournament, Cruz matched the offensive firepower of players from powerhouse Australia, New Caledonia, and New Zealand. He went on to be recognized as one of the Top 5 players in the tournament.

"I really hope and pray that I can come back here and go to Palau in August. I will talk to the coach and review the team's schedule for this season. It always gives me pride to represent the CNMI in regional tournaments," said Cruz, who returned to Saipan a few weeks ago for a vacation.

## TAN

From Page 28

challenge by accommodating us and now we call the Octopus field our home," Tan Holdings FC president Eli Arago.

Guerrero, who represented principal Katrina Lizama in the turnover ceremony, thanked Tan Holdings FC for its timely donation.

"We have only two trash cans left, as several others had already rusted, so this donation is very timely. With the school

operating on a tight budget, we have to prioritize our spending. With this donation, we get to save a few more dollars, as we do not need to buy new trash cans," Guerrero said.

"We would like to thank Tan Holdings for their generosity and also for their willingness to take San Antonio Elementary School students on the club," she added.

Tan Holdings FC general secretary Ariel Mariano said the club has more than 100 players and half of them are from San Antonio Elementary School.

"Since we call San Antonio

Elementary School our home, we would like to recruit as many students as we can to play for the club. The school has a lot of good players," Mariano said.

Tan said NMIFA is proud for what the various football clubs have been doing outside soccer.

"These clubs do more than what are expected from them. Giving donations to community and getting involved with community projects proved that these football clubs care more than playing the sport. Having a football club is not all about playing games, but also help-

ing players and coaches alike become better citizens through involvement in worthy activities," Tan said.

Tan's Matansa Football Club was the first one to donate trash cans to a school, handing its donation to Gregorio Elementary School late last month. The NMIFA president hopes more football club will be involved with community projects.

Besides donating trash cans, Tan Holdings FC also led a clean-up drive at the San Antonio Elementary School in February. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)

## KNIGHTS

From Page 28

ed on another 3-pointer and three more field goals as he scored eight points in the second stanza to help the Knights build a 14-point advantage, 44-30, at the half.

Lixing was back on the floor as the second half ensued and he immediately picked up where he left off with 13 third quarter points.

He, however, again failed to get help from his teammates as the Torch Bearers managed only to cut their deficit to 13 points, 48-61, heading into the fourth and final quarter.

Agape Christian tried to make a game of it late and even managed to whittle down Mt. Car-

mel's lead to seven points.

But Sablan again came to the Knights' rescue as the spitfire guard matched his teammates' seven points to lead Mt. Carmel to the seven-point victory.

Jared Sablan scored 19 points to support Sean in Mt. Carmel's win. Lixing, meanwhile, poured in a team-high 28 points, including 12-of-12 from the free throw line, in the Torch Bearers' loss.

## Lady Knights 55, Lady Torch Bearers 12

The Lady Knights matched the boys team's effort in the second game of Tuesday's twin bill as they lit up the Torch-Bearers, 55-12.

The Mt. Carmel girls scored 12 points in the first quarter alone to match the Lady Torch

Bearers' game total.

After the first quarter, the Lady Knights burned the hoop again, exploding for 22 points in the second quarter to go up 34-6 at halftime.

After the half, the Lady Knights kept pouring gas on the fire as they kept the Lady Torch Bearers scoreless in the third and entered the payoff period ahead, 48-6.

Agape Christian did score six points in the final eight minutes of action to finish with 12 points, but it still wasn't enough as the Lady Knights cruised to the easy victory.

Savannah Manglona top-scored for Mt. Carmel with 15 points with Kaylani Lebria adding 14. Candice Avelino fired

eight markers in the Lady Torch Bearers' loss.

## Boys Game

**Mt. Carmel 75** – S. Sablan 29, J. Sablan 19, J. Pangelinan 11, D. Kautz 8, T. Kautz 6, E. Cepeda 2.

**Agape Christian 68** – Lixing 28, Qixiong 17, Li 9, Xia 9, Zheng 3, Xing 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 22-17, 44-30, 61-48, 75-68

## Girls Game

**Mt. Carmel 55** – Manglona 15, K. Lebria 14, Ada 10, N. Lebria 8, Sbalan 6, Camacho 2.

**Agape Christian 12** – Avelino 8, Chen 2, Santiago 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 12-4, 34-6, 48-6, 55-12.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES			
MLB STANDINGS			
AMERICAN LEAGUE			
East Division			
	W	L	Pct GB
New York	10	3	.769 —
Tampa Bay	10	4	.714 1/2
Toronto	9	6	.600 2
Boston	5	9	.357 5 1/2
Baltimore	2	13	.133 9
Central Division			
Minnesota	10	4	.714 —
Detroit	7	7	.500 3
Cleveland	6	7	.462 3 1/2
Chicago	5	9	.357 5
Kansas City	5	9	.357 5
West Division			
Oakland	9	6	.600 —
Los Angeles	8	7	.533 1
Seattle	8	7	.533 1
Texas	5	8	.385 3
NATIONAL LEAGUE			
East Division			
Atlanta	8	5	.615 —
Philadelphia	8	5	.615 —
Florida	8	6	.571 1/2
Washington	7	7	.500 1 1/2
New York	6	8	.429 2 1/2
Central Division			
St. Louis	9	5	.643 —
Pittsburgh	7	6	.538 1 1/2
Milwaukee	6	7	.462 2 1/2
Cincinnati	6	8	.429 3
Chicago	5	9	.357 4
Houston	4	9	.308 4 1/2
West Division			
San Diego	8	6	.571 —
San Francisco	8	6	.571 —
Colorado	7	7	.500 1
Los Angeles	6	7	.462 1 1/2
Arizona	6	8	.429 2
Yesterday's Games			
Colorado 10, Washington 4			
Milwaukee 8, Pittsburgh 1			
N.Y. Mets 4, Chicago Cubs 0			
Cincinnati 11, L.A. Dodgers 9			
Atlanta 4, Philadelphia 3, 10 innings			
Houston 7, Florida 5			
Arizona 9, St. Louis 7			
San Diego 1, San Francisco 0			
Toronto 4, Kansas City 3			
Boston 7, Texas 6			
Minnesota 5, Cleveland 1			
Chicago White Sox 4, Tampa Bay 1			
L.A. Angels 6, Detroit 5			
N.Y. Yankees 7, Oakland 3			
Seattle 3, Baltimore 1			
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS			
LOCAL SCORES			
NAVY HILL STANDINGS			
Division A			
Rollers	10	0	
Sonics	8	1	
Diamond	7	2	
Viel's	6	4	
Torch Bearers	4	4	
Lynn's BBQ	4	5	
Moonlight	5	5	
Koi Bar	4	5	
Tropical Laundry	3	7	
Star Water	0	9	
Morales Team	0	9	
Division B			
DL Cooking Gas	9	1	
Sparks	7	1	
QQ Rent	6	4	
NVM	5	3	
Grillin'	5	4	
GEC	5	4	
Mix Blood	4	4	
Pacific Pawnshop	4	5	
Strikers	3	5	
Managaha	1	8	
MTV Constructor	0	8	



# SSC-Tsunami Saipan Dual Meet

PHOTOS By  
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Far right, swimmers and spectators watch Bryce Daly and company plunge into the pool during the 50m freestyle event in the Saipan Swim Club-Tsunami Saipan Dual Meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi early this month.

Right, SSC's Junior Pamaran at the starting block for the 100m freestyle.



Far left, Tsunami Saipan's Lukas Kang nears the finish line in the 50m butterfly.

Left, a participant in the dual meet loses his goggles, but managed to complete the 50m butterfly swim.



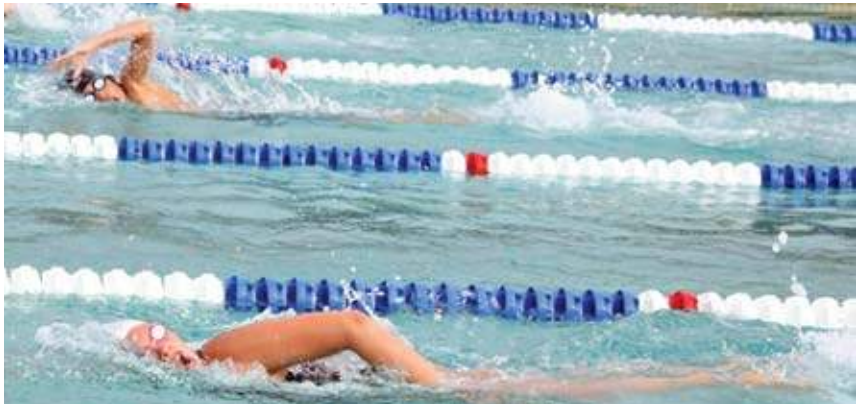
A Tsunami Saipan swimmers gasps for air during the 100m freestyle swim.



Amanda Johnson is back with SSC and was the first finisher in her heat in the 50m butterfly swim.



Tsunami Saipan's Hiroto Yanai competes in the 50m freestyle swim.



Two swimmers are in a tight race for the 100m freestyle swim.

Right, volunteer Melanie Daly makes a roll-call before the start of the race.

Far right, two SSC swimmers in a light moment during a short break in the meet.







Lakers beat  
Thunder to take  
2-0 series lead

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# Saipan Tribune Sports



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Jericho raring to play in Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Despite his successful exploits in various leagues in the Philippines, Jericho Cruz said he is still willing to play for the CNMI in the 2010 Micronesian Games.

"I really love to play for the CNMI again. It was here where I honed my skills, where I learned a lot from our local coaches. I hope there won't be any problem with my schedule in school so I can join the team in Palau," Cruz said.

The 6'1" Cruz left Saipan last year to study in the Philippines. He is now part of the Rizal Technological University varsity team, which plays in various collegiate leagues in the Philippines. The former Marianas High School standout also saw action in a commercial league in the Philippines

and also played in an invitational tournament in Vietnam and Malaysia.

"I play point and off guard for the RTU Blue Thunder. I learned a lot while playing in the Philippines and I hope I can use the things I learned there when I play for the CNMI in the Micronesian Games in Palau," the 19-year-old cager said.

At RTU, Cruz was among the top scorers of the team. He averaged in double figures for the Blue Thunder, who ruled the 22nd season of the State Colleges and Universities Athletics Association-NCR early this year.

Cruz scored 19 points in RTU's 138-68 rout of five-time champion Polytechnic University of the Philippines, to end the Thunder's five-year title drought.

Cruz and company also made it to the finals of the National Capital Region Athletics Association with the CNMI cager stepping up in Game 1 of the finals against Olivares College in the absence of other RTU players, who were suspended for figur-

See JERICHO on Page 26

Jericho Cruz does drills during a training session with the CNMI Men's Nationals pool at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium on Tuesday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



## Knights extinguish Agape Torch Bearers



WALTER J. SUTHERLAND

Agape Christian Torch Bearers' Jiang Qixiong (14) and Mt. Carmel Knights' Justin Pangelinan wrestle for a rebound in Tuesday's COPSSA game at the Mt. Carmel Gymnasium.

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER



Sean Sablan scored 29 points to lead Mt. Carmel Knights to a 75-68 victory against Agape Christian School Torch Bearers in the 2010 Colalition of Private School Sports Association Basketball League Tuesday at the Mt. Carmel School Gymnasium.

The game was close at the start with both teams' star players—Sablan and Torch Bearers guard James Lixing—leading the way.

Lixing went 5-for-5 from the

free throw line along with four field goals to tally 13 first quarter points.

Sablan, however, connected on four field goals of his own, including a triple, en route to scoring 11 points to help his Knights to a 22-17 lead after the first canto.

Mt. Carmel then began to pull away in the second quarter as it capitalized on the absence of Lixing.

Agape Christian managed only 13 second quarter points which equaled Lixing's individual performance in the opening quarter.

Sablan, meanwhile, connect-

See KNIGHTS on Page 26

## Don't count African teams out



Pienaar

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Editor's note: The Saipan Tribune today will feature three Confederation of African Football teams that advanced to the 2010 FIFA World Cup set from June 11 to July 11 in South Africa.



Much had been said about favored European teams or the five-time champion Brazil, but how about Confederation of African Football teams? Yes, they made headlines, simply because, one CAF member—South Africa—is hosting the 2010 FIFA World Cup, a historic feat since no African nation had ever hosted the quadrennial meet before.

However, if one digs deeper, he will find out that African teams, particularly South Africa, are more than the host confederation.

South Africa is a potent threat thus can't be under-

Strong threat from South Africa

See DON'T on Page 26

## Tan Holdings FC gives back to Octopus



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Players, coaches, and officials of Tan Holdings Football Club join San Antonio Elementary School reading resource teacher Sibylla Guerrero, back row sixth from left, and NMIFA president Jerry Tan, back row seventh from left, for a group photo during a turnover ceremony of donated trash cans from the club on Tuesday at the Octopus field.



The Tan Holdings Football Club is also going green, donating trash cans to its home field, the San Antonio Elementary School.

A turnover ceremony for the donated 14 trash cans took place on Tuesday at the Home of the Octopus field with Tan Holdings

FC officials, coaches, and players, Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan, and San Antonio Elementary School reading resource teacher Sibylla Guerrero attending the rites.

"On behalf of the Tan Holdings Football Club, we would like to turn over these trash cans as our token of appreciation to

San Antonio Elementary School. When we started putting out the club two years ago, the biggest challenge was to find a field that would regularly host our training sessions and actual games since we are the newest club in NMIFA and most of the schools fields were already taken. San Antonio helped us survive that

See TAN on Page 26